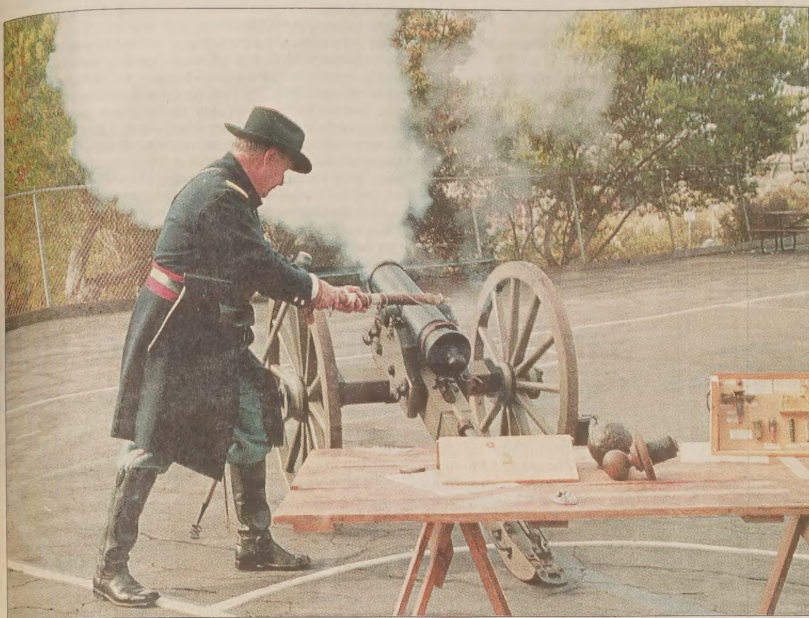


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Inside Masonic Avenue lessons in preparedness valuable for everyone [A3]

Sports Gauchos shoot for a perfect season [C1]



PHOTOS: JOANNA JHANDA

Johnny comes marching to school

MEMBERS of the American Civil War Association showed students at Prospect Sierra School's Avis Street campus the sights and sounds of the War Between the States last Friday. Top, Ray Broder demonstrates the Mountain Howitzer Cannon. Above, Mary Hess, dressed as woman of the era from the North, talks to seventh-graders. Right, seventh-grade students Sarah Katz and Chris Bartels listen to Harvey Schwartz talk about the Union Army infantry and the weapons of a soldier.



End of an era — El Cerrito Lumber slated to close

After over 70 years in operation, sale will mean a new use for more than four acres around San Pablo Avenue

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Nothing lasts forever, and a long-time business and piece of El Cerrito history will soon be closing. El Cerrito Mill and Lumber Co. is being sold and will cease operations at its current location within the next few months.

The Freethy family has operated the lumberyard and mill at Schmidt Lane and San Pablo Avenue since 1944 and reportedly a mill has operated at the site in El Cerrito since 1922.

General Manager Jack Freethy confirmed the pending sale, but could give few details because the transaction and details have not yet been finalized.

"Current negotiations are still in effect, but we expect the sale imminently," Freethy said. "The sale is very close to being completed right at the moment, and when the sale of the property is completed we'll be happy to disclose anything as far as what we expect of it."

"We are continuing for another three to four months in our milling operation, and the possibility exists that it may continue further than that in another loca-

tion," Freethy said. He could not say whether this possible new location would be in El Cerrito.

Freethy could not reveal who the new owners will be, but he said they would not be continuing the mill and lumber business.

The properties are four parcels adding up to about 4.25 acres on San Pablo Avenue and north and south of Schmidt Lane east of San Pablo Avenue.

Jack's father, Elmer Freethy, bought the mill and lumberyard in 1944 to build housing in the area at a time when World War II had created a shortage of building materials.

The influx of workers for wartime industries had created a boom in housing demand that continued after the war. Jack Freethy has worked at the mill all his adult life and has served as general manager for the past 12 years.

The main building on San Pablo Avenue, which had been largely unchanged since 1944, underwent a remodeling two years ago and now showcases the spe-

See LUMBER, Page A11

Kensington park, trees, safety on meeting agenda

The Kensington Improvement Club will hold its annual town hall meeting at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 17, in the multipurpose room at Kensington School, 90 Highland Blvd.

Fire and police safety, zoning issues, the tree ordinance, and an update on Kensington Park's progress will be discussed.

Speakers will include state Sen. Don Perata, D-Oakland; Contra Costa Supervisor John Gioia; El Cerrito/Kensington

interim Fire Chief Mark Scott; Don Dommer, chairman of the Kensington Fire District; Kensington Police Chief Barry Garfield; Jim Carman, chairman of the Kensington Municipal Advisory Council; and Joan Gallegos, president of the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District.

A question-and-answer period will follow each speaker.

For more information, call 510-526-4566.

El Cerrito city services committee looks to future role, if any

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Should the civic knights of the round table disband? Actually, it's usually 15 or so people sitting around six tables talking about city finances, but the idea is about the same. The Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole (CotW) discussed a number of matters last week, including its mission and role and whether or not the group should make a final report, pack its files, and go home.

The group also continued discussion about the possible recommendation of an El Cerrito Financial Advisory Committee, and discussed a recent report on the condition of city streets.

"If our role is to recommend that, for example, costs be established for the streets, and then once that's done, then there's another task force set to decide how it's funded, I don't have any problem with that, but then I think that ought to be made clear," said committee member and Financial Review Team Chairman Steve Magyary. He said the CotW

needs to clarify "just exactly what our role is — or isn't — or what our role ought to be."

Other committee members voiced agreement with Magyary and said this clarification needs to come from the City Council.

"It would seem to me that we need some feedback from the council that cre-

ated the Committee of the Whole to begin with, as to what more they think we need to do under the current charge," said committee member George Amberg. "And second, if they think we need to continue after those charges are satisfactorily addressed."

See SERVICES, Page A14

Activists seek new approach to Gill Tract use

By James Carter

An exuberant gathering of scientists, students, community gardeners and environmentalists urged UC Chancellor Robert Berdahl on Saturday to meet with them about a plan that would transform Albany's Gill Tract into an urban garden research and education center.

The 12-acre Gill Tract, located next to University Village on the corner of Buchanan Street and San Pablo Avenue

in Albany, is owned by the University of California but managed by the College of Natural Resources.

Members and supporters of the Bay Area Coalition for Urban Agriculture (BACUA) say the proposal would transform Gill Tract into the only academic center in the country devoted to urban agriculture.

Coalition members said the proposal would help the university fulfill its mission statement by developing close links to the community.

Supporters say new jobs would be created at the Gill Tract, people could learn how to grow gardens at home there, and low-income residents would have a source of fresh fruits and vegetables readily available.

University spokeswoman Marie Felde said Tuesday that CNR is working with the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP) on campus to develop "an initiative on food security

and urban agriculture" based at the Gill Tract.

Though the announcement was greeted with skepticism, BACUA co-chair Peter Rosset said "We would welcome negotiations with SAREP to create a university/community partnership at the Gill Tract. We only hope that this is a real possibility, rather than yet another delaying tactic from the UC brass."

Rosset is executive director of Food First/The Institute for Food and Development Policy. He and others have met with university officials several times over the past year and a half regarding BACUA's proposal, but without success, Rosset said.

Berdahl has refused to meet with the coalition or any of its members, according to BACUA.

Several speakers Saturday denounced what they called the "commercialism" of



STEVE MASLANKA

RESEARCH COORDINATOR Chris Vasilikiotis, left, discusses the best way to gain support for urban agriculture at the Gill Tract in Albany at Saturday's meeting.

See TRACT, Page A11

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Family Day at Symphony

Family Day at the Symphony with the Oakland East Bay Symphony is Sunday Nov. 14 at 2 p.m. at the Richmond Convention Center, 25th and Navin. Twenty-eight music students will be playing side-by-side with musicians from the symphony during a portion of the performance. The program is designed for the young and young-at-heart and is a very appropriate performance for introducing young children to the symphony. Tickets \$2 for children up to age 12, all other tickets are \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The event is sponsored by the City of Richmond and co-sponsored by the EdFund.

Rotary pancake breakfast

Enjoy pancakes, ham, orange juice, coffee and milk at the El Cerrito Rotary Club's 29th annual Pancake Breakfast on Nov. 14 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Eagles Hall 3233 Carlson Blvd. Rod Roberts, who holds the Community Center tea dances, will provide musical entertainment. Tickets are \$5 adults, \$4 for seniors and children under 12.

'Tom Jones' at AHS

AHS Theatre Ensemble presents "Tom Jones" at the Little Theater. Performances are: Nov. 12, 13 and 20, at 8 p.m., and Nov. 14 and 21 at 5 p.m.

Cub Scout pancake breakfast

Come to the Albany Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 21, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building. This annual event is the sole public fundraising activity of the Albany Cub Scouts.

Masquers auditions

The Masquers Playhouse will hold auditions for "Tribute," a play by Bernard Slade and directed by Jerry Johnson.

Scottie loved life and everybody loved Scottie. Being told your days are numbered could put a chill on things in this poignant comedy. To be cast are three men and four women, ages 25 to 65 on Nov. 7 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. Readings from the script. Show opens Jan. 21 and plays through Feb. 26. For more information please call director Jerry Johnson at (925) 254-4582.

Suspension, expulsion process

The Albany Unified School District Board of Education will hold a "Study Session" for the board and administrators in order for legal counsel to provide updates on suspension and expulsion procedures, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Cornell School multi-purpose room, 901 Cornell Ave. in Albany.

Save a salt marsh

Save a Salt Marsh - help remove litter and invasive non-native plants from the salt marsh at the mouth of Codornices and Marin creeks, south of Buchanan Street, between I-880/580 and Golden Gate Fields in Albany, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 13. Bring work gloves if you have them. For information contact Friends of Five Creeks, 848-9358; fscreeks@aol.com.

Community takes up fight

Albany Mayor Peggy Thomsen and the American Cancer Society invite you to attend an information meeting about Relay for Life, a team event to fight cancer being proposed for Albany-Berkeley in June 2000. A party with food, fun and facts about this event will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 17 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Albany City Hall Council Room, 1000 San Pablo Ave. For more information and to RSVP call Janna Katz at the American Cancer Society,

(510) 832-7012 x325 or email jkatz@cancer.org.

College Night

"College Night" is a panel discussion of learning disability programs in the community, state, university and private colleges for high school students, parents and counselors that will be held Wednesday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at REACH for Learning, 1221 Marin Ave., Albany. Details: 524-6455.

Greenway work party

The next Ohlone Greenway work party is Saturday, Nov. 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet on the Greenway at Schmidt. If you don't know a hawk from a pruning saw, here's your chance to learn. Local arborist Steve Batchelder will teach us how to prune shrubs and trees, and then we can all have a go at it. We'll also explore the mysteries of the Dinosauro Forest and the Creek with No Name, do some more litter removal and possibly some creek work, too. Details: Janet Abelson 525-7709 or Lori Dair 232-6466; lori.dair@earthlink.net

Windrush Kindergarten Info

Windrush School's Kindergarten Information Night is on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. The four acre campus is located in El Cerrito two blocks east of the Del Norte BART station at 1800 Elm St. Facilities include separate elementary and middle school wings, a full size gymnasium, a library, an art studio, a computer lab, a garden and outdoor play area, with a new turf field. Further information is available from 970-7580 or from www.windrush.org.

Movie poster sale

The UC Theatre, 2036 University Ave., holds its annual sale of movie posters on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Malicious mischief by youths victimizes aquarium store

EL CERRITO — Two male teens at Longs Drugs concealed merchandise in a backpack Oct. 26 and tried sneak out, but were caught. Efforts to fight off security guards failed and they were arrested.

■ During the afternoon of Oct. 27, a 37-year-old woman pulled a knife on another female at a massage parlor on the 11800 block of San Pablo Avenue. She was arrested by police after a witness — also a woman — fingered her.

■ A 17-year-old boy shopping with his mom at Lucky Store the afternoon of Oct. 27, tried to make a clean getaway with a bar of soap in his pocket and a bottle of whiskey stuffed in his pants. He was arrested for petty theft.

■ Two young men, one thought to be 20 years old, the other 16, climbed atop the roof of a building on the 7600 block of Terrace Drive sometime after noon Oct. 27, then dropped down to a balcony on the second floor. They slipped through an unlocked sliding glass door and stole \$4,250 in possessions.

■ A burglar pried open the front door of a house on the 7000 block of Schmidt Lane sometime during the late night or early evening of Oct. 27

or 28, and ransacked the house, stealing close to \$2,900 in valuables.

■ A 15-year-old boy on his way to school was accosted by two teenagers near the corner of Ashbury and Linden avenues Oct. 29. The boys demanded \$30, and when he failed to produce the cash, the thieves beat him so severely he required stitches.

■ Two high school teens walked into a tropical fish store on the 11300 block of San Pablo Avenue Oct. 29. The owner immediately recognized one as a former customer. The two boys poured chemicals into seven different tanks and left.

The next day, the two hoodlums returned to the scene of the crime where they had killed \$1,000 in fish, and were quickly spotted by the owners who locked the front door. The boys panicked, fled out the back, and raced to the front of the store where they dove into an orange Camaro and raced off. Meanwhile, the owner took down their license plate number and phoned police, and both teens will soon know what it is like to spend time in the tank.

■ A vandal smashed the window of an automobile parked on the 1800 block of Arlington Avenue sometime during the late night or early morn-

San Pablo mail collection box stole

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — On the afternoon of Oct. 31 officers responded to the area of San Pablo Avenue and Monroe Street on reports of a man with a handgun gesturing at passing cars. Officers contacted the 53-year-old man who was brandishing a lethal hairbrush.

He was not considered a danger to himself or others and was sent on his way.

■ At about 9 p.m. on Oct. 31 a resident on the 1300 block of Marin Avenue reported that vandals threw something at her kitchen window causing it to break. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 10:15 p.m. on Oct. 31 a resident on the 1100 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that about five minutes prior her son, while at Cornell School, was mugged at knife-point by three males described as about 19 years old wearing ski masks. Police are investigating.

■ On the morning of Nov. 1 officers responded to Albany High School on reports that a student brought weapons to the school dance on the prior Friday night. Officers took the report.

■ On the evening of Nov. 1, Albany officers responded to reports of a U.S. Post Office collection box being stolen from the 1100 block of San Pablo Avenue. There were no witnesses and police are investigating.

■ On the morning of Nov. 2 a resident on the 600 block of Jackson Street reported that during the night thieves stole her white '90 Honda

Civic parked in front of her home. There were no witnesses.

■ On the same morning a resident on the 500 block of Jackson Street reported that thieves broke into his blue '91 Accura Integra and stole his stereo and other items. There were no witnesses.

■ Same morning, same date, another resident on the 500 block of Jackson Street reported that during the night vandals smashed the window of his white '90 Mazda.

Nothing apparently was taken and there were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Nov. 4 a resident on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that during the night thieves broke into his black '90 Mazda while it was parked in the garage area. There were no witnesses.

■ On Oct. 29 Oakland police, along with CHP, pursued a suspect into the area of the 1000 block of Eastshore Highway.

The suspect was apprehended but a handgun that the subject was reported to have possession of was not found.

■ On the morning of Nov. 5 Albany officers located a 9mm handgun matching the description of the alleged weapon. It was turned over to the Oakland police department.

■ At about 1:15 a.m. on Nov. 6 Albany officers contacted a man and a woman in a white Toyota van parked in a lot at Golden Gate Fields. The driver, a 29-year-old El Cerrito man, was found to have an outstanding warrant from Alameda County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$568. He

POLICE REPORT

ing of Oct. 29 or 30.

■ A gunman was confronted a few early in the morning and ordered him to stop the youth's pager, and fled down the San Pablo Avenue.

■ Police spotted a woman climbing out of a 10800 block of San Pablo at 11 p.m. Oct. 31, a car was stolen.

■ When questioned, the parently passengers — put the finger on her and she was arrested for a stolen property.

■ A 26-year-old man hand basked with pain medications while El Cerrito Lucky Store tried to sneak out of the out paying, but when spotted him, he came up and made a run. Headache relief began to took him into court.

was arrested, cited and a Notice to Appear.

■ At about 3 a.m. Albany officers contacted a man observed hiding behind private property on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue.

The 32-year-old man was found to have a warrant from Pleasanton and a warrant from Alameda County arrested and transported Berkeley jail.

■ On the morning of Albany officers contacted a man near Solano and 71st Avenue who was found standing warrants from the amount of \$5,000 and Jose in the amount of \$3,000.

He was arrested and taken to the Berkeley jail.

During the week of Albany officers responded to seven false calls tended to seven lost animal, assisted eight were locked out of their homes and responded to two barking dogs.

In the domestic arena, sponded to 10 reports of disturbances and 71 calls by Albany officers stopped 128 citations and 180 citations.

Albany firefighters sponded three fire calls and medical emergencies.

CMG Mortgage joins the Chamber

New Chamber member CMG Mortgage, Inc., a California corporation, was formed for the purpose of conducting mortgage banking and brokerage. Its primary business is residential loans for the purchase or refinancing of family homes. Since its inception in July of 1993, the company has grown from eight employees to over 250 employees with offices in Albany, San Diego, San Ramon, Walnut Creek and Canton, Ga. CMG Mortgage is also the parent company of Rate First, a subsidiary that provides mortgage loans over the Internet.

The very capable Shauna Bishop, who is a local gal from Berkeley, manages this branch. She came to CMG with 16 years of experience and feels strongly that her personal dedication for providing exceptional service to her clients and Realtors will be beneficial to CMG.

We are happy to welcome this group to our membership and to the community. Their office is at 1225 Solano Avenue.

Win the Bicycle

Have you purchased your tickets for the Specialized Hard Rock bicy-

cle that is displayed in the chamber window? I am happy to say that people are buying tickets and many are donating them to their favorite charity which is truly an act of giving that keeps on giving. Good luck to all.

December Mixer

The next big function is tentatively set for Dec. 15, at the Mechanics Bank. It will be the final social event for the year and (egad!) the millennium. More to come about this event later.

Cancer Society Relay for Life

Albany Mayor Peggy Thomsen invites you to join her for Albany's first ever "Relay Rally" on Wednesday, Nov. 17, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Council Room, 1000 San Pablo Ave.

This is a party with food, fun and facts about the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life," a team event to fight cancer. Please RSVP by November 12, to Janna Katz at 832-7012 ext. 325.

New Face at California Bank & Trust

Chiyoko Fujinaga has been named

Albany Chamber

By Roxanne Wiley

jinaga will handle the Japanese customer banking relations including regular checking accounts, direct deposit, money market accounts, CD's, IRA accounts, savings bonds and other customer service activities. Welcome Ms. Fujinaga.

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LOCAL CLINIC PARTICIPATING IN GLOBAL SCHIZOPHRENIA STUDY

Berkeley, July 28, 1999 - Berkeley Therapy Institute announced today that they have begun enrolling patients into a clinical trial of a compound being evaluated for the treatment of schizophrenia. The study, known as ILP 3004, is one of several in a worldwide development project known as the ReAlize program.

The study at Berkeley Therapy Institute is part of a clinical development program to evaluate the efficacy and safety of an investigational drug in the treatment of patients with schizophrenia. Schizophrenia is a devastating condition, which affects nearly one percent of the world's population; schizophrenia is the most common and disabling of all major mental illnesses.

Schizophrenia impairs patients' cognitive functions causing positive symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions, and negative symptoms such as blunted affect and social withdrawal. The disease typically strikes in late adolescence, with the onset of gross abnormalities in perception and an inability to feel or express pleasure. The profound incidence of suicide among schizophrenics is a well-documented public health problem.

Dr. Robert Dolgoff, primary investigator for this clinical trial at Berkeley Therapy Institute, notes that "despite impressive advances in psychiatry, we still do not have optimal treatment for schizophrenia. As many as 20% to 30% of patients do not respond to, or get unpleasant side effects with, the medications that are currently available. Therefore, research into new modes of treatment is vital for patients battling this disease.

Patients participating in this ReAlize study will receive free study medication or placebo and will be closely monitored on a regular basis by mental health professionals. To be eligible for participation in the trial, patients must be between the ages of 18 and 65, diagnosed with schizophrenia and exhibiting symptoms of the disease. In addition, participants must meet all inclusion criteria specified in the study protocol.

To obtain further information about this ReAlize study, please contact Clinical Trial Coordinator Leigh Pruneau, RN, Ph.D., at (510) 841-8484, ext. 136.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Journal

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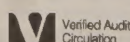
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IN BRIEF

Youth, elected officials
to meet at conference

BERKELEY — A "Listening to Our Youth Conference" is scheduled for Nov. 13, at Malcom X School, 1931 Phase 3 in Berkeley from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The intent is to allow young people to talk directly with elected officials, city council members and policymakers. Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson opened the conference with two remarks to empower young people by giving them an opportunity to talk directly with elected officials and, to give elected officials the chance to hear about issues that young people care in their daily lives. Organizers of the conference will give young people a chance to freely express their views in discussion groups on topics ranging from youth violence, to the misconceptions about youth, to the quality of the educational system.

Students from high schools in Oakland, Berkeley, Piedmont and Albany, students from alternative high schools, and members of youth organizations are expected to attend. Elected officials and city council members expected to attend the conference include: City Council members from Berkeley, Oakland, Piedmont and Albany, the mayors of Berkeley and Emeryville, school board members from Berkeley, Oakland and Piedmont, Oakland's police chief and Alameda County Superior Court judges.

New Plaza tenants

EL CERRITO — The El Cerrito Plaza partnership has announced the signing of letters of agreement for the first phase of its 197,000-square-foot expansion and revitalization of the plaza with Lucky/Sav-on (Albertsons) in 67,000 square feet, Ross Department Stores in 30,000 square feet, Best Bath & Beyond in 30,000 square feet and Gap/Old Navy in 10,500 and 25,000 square feet respectively. City council approvals were received earlier this year for Phase I, and construction is slated to start in April 2000 with the new stores expected to open in March 2001.

Planning for the Phase II facelift of 117,000 square feet of existing stores, including the Longs Drug Store on the south side of the project, are under way, with plans expected to be presented to the city for approval by early November. Demolition of four existing buildings needed to make way for the new anchor stores is scheduled to begin later this year. Leasing is being handled by Mehmet Noyan of the

Mehmet Noyan Company.

Aquatic Outreach
honored

RICHMOND — The Aquatic Outreach Institute has been awarded the 1999 Integrated Pest Management Innovator Award. The Innovators Award, given by the state Department of Pesticide Regulation, recognizes outstanding contributions to the development and promotion of Integrated Pest Management. IPM is an approach to gardening and farming that emphasizes a better understanding of natural processes and promotes the use of non-toxic or least-toxic controls for pests.

The Aquatic Outreach Institute, one of eight organizations that received the award, was honored in particular for two of its teacher-training programs, which include Kids in Gardens: A Pesticide Reduction Program, and Watching Our Watersheds: Reducing Pollution through Creek and Gardening Projects.

The Aquatic Outreach Institute is a nonprofit that develops and manages educational and outreach programs to protect the creeks, wetlands, and watersheds of the Bay Area.

All of Aquatic Outreach Institute's nine programs have been developed with the goal of improving water quality and instilling in participants a desire to protect and restore local natural resources. The programs have provided thousands of educators and members of the general public and tens of thousands of children with the information and skills they need to take action to care for the aquatic resources that are such an integral part of our environment.

The ceremony took place Nov. 4, in the Governor's Council Room in Sacramento.

For more information on the institute, contact Executive Director Kathy Kramer at 231-9507.

Liberty Street 1950s potluck

Anyone who had a connection to the 600 block of Liberty Street during the early to mid-1950s is invited to a special reunion potluck on Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 6922 Stockton Ave. The reunion is presented by Belva Ballance, who lived on the block from 1950-1955, and whose children attended Cub Scout meetings there. Ballance, who now lives in Escalon, put together the reunion at the request of her son.

Neighbors get lessons in quake preparedness

By James Carter

ALBANY — Neighbors on Masonic Avenue met — many for the first time — on the Ohlone Greenway last Sunday to discuss preparations for a major earthquake.

Led by long-term resident Jack Rosano, neighbors gathered around a camping table set beneath threatening skies. As the meeting began, many recollected the Loma Prieta Earthquake, including Helen Chamberlain, who shuddered at the thought.

Rosano, who was disaster preparedness coordinator for the Berkeley Fire Department before he retired, spelled out an assessment of varying scenarios for earthquakes of differing magnitudes. Folks listened as they nibbled on chips, salsa and other treats, except during those clamorous moments when a BART train whirled across the tracks.

The get-together was a chance for many to meet their neighbors for the first time, several couples and families recent arrivals on the block.

Rosano — who has lived in Albany for 40 years, 25 at his current home — was the one person everyone knew. On Masonic Street, the venerable Rosano is the local authority and neighborhood newspaper all wrapped into one, though his influence is said to extend one square mile.

Rosano stressed the importance of knowing your neighbors and watching out for one another, both during an emergency and year round. All gathered there agreed that

when the Big One strikes — whether it be in two hours or two decades — it would be comforting to know they could depend upon one another.

Rosano said that for the first few hours at least, local medical and fire fighting resources will be overwhelmed. Neighbors compared notes regarding the types of skills they have, as well as tools and supplies that could be put to good use under such circumstances.

It is very important to strap down water heaters, Rosano said. If a water heater is knocked down during a quake, it can hurt someone and rupture a gas line. Rosano pointed out the heaters are a good source of water as well, containing on an average 30 to 40 gallons each.

One of the most important issues discussed by neighbors was how to prevent fires in the aftermath of an earthquake.

Again Rosano shared his experience as a firefighter and emergency technician. He advised neighbors to turn off the gas valve only if they smelled gas in or directly outside of their home.

Mary Beth Mudgett agreed. While a newcomer to the neighborhood, Mudgett knows something about what it is like to survive a major quake — she lived through the Northridge earthquake in Southern California.

Mudgett said that powerful quake struck so early in the morning it was still dark outside. She said people were panicky because they could not see anything and because so many things had fallen down inside homes,

making it difficult to walk.

The quake was so severe in Northridge, Mudgett said, that the building where she worked was destroyed. The apartment building where she lived was damaged as well. It was the type of structure scientists have identified as particularly dangerous during a quake — a building built above a parking garage without reinforced walls.

"We were so scared we weren't thinking clearly," she said, recalling how many people lit candles in the dark before checking to see if there was a gas leak. Many didn't even know where to turn off the gas, she said, pointing out how important it is to know where the gas valve is located.

Paul King suggested that everyone locate the gas shut-off valve in their homes and buy a plastic wrench designed for gas lines and hang it near the valve in case of a leak.

Neighbors agreed to help prepare a map of the neighborhood, one that showed the exact location of the gas shut off valve at their homes in case they are away when a quake strikes.

All agreed to give permission to neighbors to turn the valve off if they smelled gas near their homes.

Rosano stressed that people should only turn off such valves if the scent of gas was detected. Otherwise, he warned, residents might be without gas for weeks, or even longer.

Neighbors agreed to include other information on the block map, including names and ages of children, homes where elderly or disabled res-

idents might live, and phone numbers. Rosano said that families and couples should make plans concerning children and loved ones in the event they are separated due to a quake.

Rino Bartolo brought up the need for residents to check the kinds of chemicals they have stored in and around their homes. He pointed out that if cans or bottles are burst or ruptured, chemicals could mix and release dangerous — even deadly — fumes.

It is particularly important to remove hazardous chemicals stored near a water heater or other location with a pilot light, he said, to avoid an explosion. He suggested everyone take a household inventory and properly dispose of chemicals that are dangerous.

As the clouds darkened and the first few drops of rain fell Sunday afternoon, neighbors agreed to meet again soon and to organize some sort of a door-to-door visit so those not present could be included in the neighborhood plan.

Rosano volunteered to prepare the agreed-upon map, one that in many ways was already quite clear in his head. Rosano also distributed literature about Y2K preparations, and pamphlets outlining specifically what every household can do to be prepared for a disaster.

The wind began to blow and neighbors scattered off toward their homes.

And most felt just a little more secure knowing that when an emergency strikes, they will not be alone.

Young talent honored by California Arts Scholar

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Three young artists were honored at a reception held Sunday, Nov. 7, at the Veterans Memorial Hall. They are the 1998 and 1999 California Arts Scholar winners from West Contra Costa County. About 20 people attended the reception and performance sponsored by El Cerrito-based Celebrating Culture and Community, and the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County.

Three West County winners of the annual statewide competition attended the event and gave perfor-

mances.

"We want to highlight diversity and arts in our area," said Dr. Eve Ma of Celebrating Culture and Community.

MacKenzie Marshall, a California Arts Scholar in singing, performed three songs. She sang "Once Upon a December," "You Must Love Me" from the musical "Evita" and a country-swing number called "Honey I'm Home." Marshall, a 14-year-old freshman attending Ygnacio Valley High School, has been singing since she was 9 years old, and it was a treat for people in the audience to hear this young talent.

El Cerrito High School junior Emma Maack, 16, is a 1998 California Arts Scholar in dance.

Maack was the only one from West County to win last year, and she was honored at the reception.

Maack performed a jazz dance titled "To a Loved One" for those at Sunday's event. Her graceful and fluid dance moves made it clear to all in the audience why she is an Arts Scholar winner. Maack began her dance career with ballet lessons in kindergarten and may major in dance in college.

Candace Wong, a 15-year-old 1999 California Arts Scholar in the-

ater, performed a soliloquy from a series of dramatic sketches called "A Cheever Evening" by A. R. Gurney.

Wong lives in El Cerrito and attends the School of Arts in San Francisco. Her dramatic rendition delighted all in the audience. She has studied theater arts for the past two years and is currently writing a play.

Another West County Arts Scholar, Russell Nichols who won in the creative writing category and attends Hogan High School in Vallejo, was not able to attend the reception.

Nichols lived in West County for 14 years before moving to Vallejo shortly after receiving the award.

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Orlando	\$124	Chicago	\$99
Cleveland	\$134	Toronto, CAN	\$128
Philadelphia	\$115	Tampa	\$124
Boston	\$154	Detroit	\$114
Houston	\$149	Columbus	\$149
Atlanta	\$152		

INTERNATIONAL

Sample Discounted Fares from San Francisco (Each Way Based Upon Round Trip Purchase)

DESTINATIONS	FARES	DESTINATIONS	FARES
San Juan	\$165*	Rome	\$192
Milan	\$192	Madrid	\$185
Paris	\$167	Lisbon	\$192
London	\$157	Barcelona	\$185

*Fares & Conditions have been subject to change without notice. Fares are not guaranteed until booked; travel restrictions apply on advance purchase. All fares include 12.5% airport passenger facility charges where applicable. International fares do not include taxes/fees/charges of up to \$75. Additional requirements, limited availability and other purchase and travel restrictions may apply. *May not apply to all destinations.

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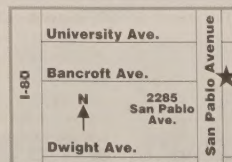
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Opinion

VIEWPOINT

Financing the El Cerrito Swim Center — decisions and choices

By Gina Brusatori
MAYOR OF EL CERRITO

On Nov. 15, the City Council will discuss how to finance the pool with a tax measure on the March 2000 ballot. The ballot measure requires two-thirds voter approval to pass. Thus, the tax measure must be widely acceptable and not generate organized opposition.

The Swim Center is used by about 10 percent of our residents (approx. 1,000 households of a total of 10,000). Many consider it a community asset and aside from the Plaza, an important factor in defining our quality of life in El Cerrito.

The council has received estimates that rebuilding and renovating our streets will cost over \$10 million. Other projects, including renovating our public safety building and pursuing other long-deferred capital improvements for 30-40 year facilities, boost the total price tag to \$30 million.

On the March 2000 ballot, I favor a parcel tax for up to 20 years and up to \$5.3 million in net proceeds for specified capital improvement projects at the Swim Center and the Canyon Trail, Huber, Poinsett and Harding clubhouse facilities.

I also want the ballot measure to include a low-income exemption, the obligation by the council to use cost savings to fund a maintenance and reconstruction fund for the Swim Center, the distribution of several swim tickets per year (for at least an initial period) to encourage community support and the obligation of the council to use real estate property transfer tax proceeds to fund a maintenance and reconstruction fund for civic capital improvements, including the Swim Center.

In conjunction with the tax measure, but not necessarily part of the ballot language, I favor seeking ways to share the cost of the new Swim Center with non-residents as described later.

As background for my proposal, I present the various aspects of a tax measure with the pros and cons of each, based upon what I have read and heard to date.

Net Amount of proceeds: \$5.3 million

Pros: The \$5.3 million net proceeds from a tax measure includes \$4.9 million for the rebuild of the two existing pools, new locker rooms, new pump room and a small meeting room in the community center adjacent to the pools. The Swim Center is 37 years old and does not meet current health and safety codes.

The tax would also fund approximately \$400,000 for several park projects. These would include rebuilding the Canyon Trail Clubhouse that has been closed for two years due to structural problems, and replacing rest rooms at the Poinsett, Huber and Harding park clubhouses with ones that are accessible to the disabled.

By combining the Swim Center with some clubhouses, residents will enjoy newer facilities in various neighborhoods. This should help garner additional support for the tax measure. The addition \$400,000 will cost about \$5 a year on a 20-year parcel tax.

Cons: The Swim Center costs much more than expected. The Swim Center consultant was asked, "How much would it cost to replace the Swim Center and bring it up to code?" We did not ask, "If we cap the cost at \$2.5 million for example, then what type of Swim Center can we have, including bringing the facility up to code?" We also did not seek a second opinion. If capping the cost at a lower figure were possible, it would make the tax measure more affordable and more likely to pass.

Term: 20 years

Pros: A 20-year term will lower the annual tax payment and spread the cost of the Swim Center and other facilities over existing and

future property owners. A lower annual cost makes the tax more affordable and increases the possibility that voters are able to pay for and therefore presumably approve future taxes to finance our streets, public safety building and other community projects. People generally focus on the annual tax payment, not the cumulative cost of the financing (i.e. principal and interest); hence the popularity of the 30-year mortgage. A 20-year term cuts in half the annual tax payment that would be payable under a 10-year term.

Both current property owners and people who purchase homes or other property within the next 20 years will contribute toward the cost of the facilities. Since the Swim Center and other facilities are expected to last 20 years or more, existing and future property owners would pay as they benefit from them.

With a shorter tax term, those who subsequently purchase property would enjoy the facilities without having to pay for them. El Cerrito has among the fastest growing population of people over age 70 in Contra Costa County. A 20-year term would increase the likelihood that future generations or new residents would shoulder their share of the costs in greater proportion to enjoying their share of the benefits.

Cons: A 20-year term will significantly increase the total cost of financing because more interest will have to be paid over time. The accumulated cost of financing would effectively more than double. While the total cost of financing is less visible, it is still a factor.

A 10-year term may shift most, if not all, of the cost of the Swim Center and other facilities onto current property owners. However, given additional capital expenditures of up to \$30 million that will need funding over the next few years, there will be other opportunities to pass longer term tax measures so that the current and future residents shoulder the cost burden.

Type: parcel tax

Pros: Assessed values have little to do with actual values. Under Proposition 13, property is either based upon a starting point in the mid-'70s with a maximum 2 percent annual increase or its purchase price if it changed ownership. Like any tax system, there are inequities. One home can be assessed at \$300,000, while the neighboring home is assessed at \$100,000. Newer residents whose homes are assessed at \$300,000 pay more than \$3,000 per year in property taxes. Their neighbors, who have owned their homes prior to 1978, pay about 80 percent less or \$400-600 per year in taxes.

Yet all homeowners would benefit from the new Swim Center, as it makes El Cerrito a better community. Long-time residents may use the pool less than may newer residents with young families.

However, they likely supported the initial ballot measure to build the Swim Center in 1962 and consider the Swim Center fundamental to their quality of life in El Cerrito these past 37 years. We should not worsen the inequities with an ad valorem tax.

Long-time residents are not nec-

See BRUSATORI, Page A5

REMEMBER WHAT OUR VETERANS HAVE DONE FOR US



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need for a campus officer not yet demonstrated

The Albany School District is now evaluating the use of a full-time armed police officer (school resource officer) at Albany High School.

The safety issue of whether or not to introduce deadly force at Albany High School as a means of anger management—among other duties—is still not resolved.

It could be decided the wrong way if residents and parents do not get involved to oppose an armed guard at AHS.

The original mission and mandate from the Albany School Board to the SRO Committee on Feb. 23 was to determine whether to have an armed guard at AHS, not how to implement the armed guard.

The mission of the SRO Committee was revised "to identify goals, needs, and concerns for the SRO ..." assuming unilaterally that the need for an SRO is a forgone conclusion.

Since a partial grant was approved by the Department of Justice, proponents have assumed control of the SRO Committee, even to include the very officer proposed for the SRO position by the Albany Police Department, as a full member of the SRO Committee. It is clearly a conflict of interest.

There is no demonstrated need for an armed guard at AHS. No competent study has yet been done to address specific AHS safety needs, nor has there ever been a demonstrated need at AHS for a full-time, on-site armed guard.

Before implementing such drastic measures, there are effective alternatives from comparable Bay Area campuses to consider that successfully demonstrate how to maintain consistent campus safety.

Increased supervision combined with increased psychological counseling and mediation are far better and more instructive ways to teach and instill conflict resolution to students and to prepare them for their future in society.

A safe campus does not need to include full-time presence of deadly force. What a backward model for conflict resolution and prevention.

Student behavior requires guidance from both the home and the school.

When guidance and attention are missing from home, a child can become a disturbance to the school environment. Today, schools face additional burdens. As a result, the school challenges need to increasingly reach into the domains of public health and public safety.

Schools still need to provide adequate learning environments and to prevent any dramatic disturbances. Costs are inevitable and their coverage be requested. Short-term Band Aid recipes are wasteful and useless in the long run.

The obvious appearance of a lethal weapon and potential use of deadly force for student behavior is absolutely wrong-headed. It indicates to students that deadly force is the ultimate measure of control.

It is unfortunate that the former superintendent launched and left such an incomplete process with his inability to see it through. This present skewed process must be stopped.

Please take action now. Express your opposition to the COPS in Schools program immediately. You can reach the Albany School Board members by mail at Albany Unified School District, 904 Talbot Ave., Albany, CA 94706; or by e-mail:

Members, Albany Board of Education
Owen H. Jones owenj@albany.k12.ca.us
Bill Cain bcaine@aol.com
Marsha Skinner
marshaskinner@yahoo.com
Mary Wallmann mwallmann@earthlink.net
David Farrell dfarrell@library.berkeley.edu
Gary Mills, superintendent garym@albany.k12.ca.us

Jacques Berchten
Albany Marin School parent

Kudos to Albany police for quick response

I would like to thank the Albany Police Department, dispatcher King and Officer De la Torre for the quick response to a safety issue on Thursday, Nov. 4. PG&E had notified the merchants on the 800 and 900 blocks of San Pablo Avenue that the electricity would be off from 10 p.m.-5 a.m. Unfortunately, they did not notify the city of Albany, and the traffic lights were also turned off at Solano and San Pablo avenues. I spoke with dispatch at 10:04 p.m. to inform them that cars were not stopping at the intersection, and was told that an officer was on his way.

Officer De la Torre soon had flares out on Solano and San Pablo and returned with another officer with temporary four-way stop signs. The situation was under control by 10:45 p.m.

I would also like to thank the dedicated men and women of the Albany Police Department for their continuing team effort to keep our streets safe.

Raymond H. Anderson
Albany

Thanks to voters

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to the voters of El Cerrito and all those who supported me and worked to make my election to the City Council a success.

Together we worked hard, stayed positive, kept to our message and tried to connect directly with every resident by doing it the "old-fashioned way"—walking precincts, knocking on doors, shaking hands and listening. I take great pride in the fact that ours was truly a grassroots effort with no outside influences.

I am grateful to all my old friends and the new friends I made along the way who opened their doors, chatted about their concerns and those who offered encouraging words or a cool drink on those warm September and October afternoons.

Thank you again and I look forward to working with the other council members and for the people of El Cerrito to make our home the best.

Kathie Perka
El Cerrito

A one-sided discussion

As I sat in Marin School's Blue Angels assembly last week, amid excited and mesmerized faces of young children wanting to fly cool planes, I was outraged.

How and why did a military propaganda and recruitment video work its way into an elementary school that claims to teach peace and conflict resolution to children? Who made this choice and why? Why was there not a serious followup so that all sides of the issue could be honestly discussed in the classroom and at home?

Perhaps, to some people, the capabilities of these planes is worthy of respect. But it is also true that their primary purpose as "centerpieces of Naval aviation" (video) is to go to war and drop missiles and bombs on people.

When a boy in the assembly asked the Blue Angels, "What was that missile thing on the bottom of the plane?" the Blue Angels lied and said that it was to make the plane go faster.

Let's be frank. Let's be honest with our children that the planes' primary purpose is to kill, or let's not show the propaganda/recruitment video that purposefully omits that and makes the planes seem really fun and cool.

By definition, propaganda is misleading. It precludes any thoughtful discussion, and is fundamentally dishonest and contrary to the very purpose of education, which is to encourage and facilitate critical thinking.

Some of the Marin teachers, in their good judgment, refused to hand out the accompanying glossy propaganda brochures that were to be sent home with the children. The Marin front office desk had them out for weeks! Very few teachers, if any, had discussions with their students about what these planes are actually used for.

A few parents along with one teacher (at our prompting) did have a brief discussion with some of the kids. We stated the fact that while these planes seem really cool, they go to war. Kids started asking important and critical questions. Why do they have to go to war? Why didn't the Blue Angels tell us that? Good questions!

Why aren't more Albany educators openly and comfortably talking about these controversial issues? Don't we expect that our schools will have a clear vision? Don't we trust that schools will encourage our children to think critically about their world?

Deborah Godner
Albany parent

Renters are voters, too

Bob Winslow, in his letter Oct. 29, says we should not vote for Letitia Moore because she is not a homeowner in El Cerrito and therefore does not pay taxes. This is an oft-repeated misunderstanding.

Just because renters do not get a tax bill that doesn't mean we don't pay taxes. The owner of our apartments pay his taxes out of our rent. Taxes go up, rent goes up. Next he'll be saying only property owners should vote.

Minnie Favre
El Cerrito

See LETTERS, Page A5

GENERAL MANAGER • RUTH MARICICH

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THE JOURNAL

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Brusatori

FROM PAGE A4

cash-strapped with respect to disposable income. Over 35 percent of our residents are 50 years of age or older, with children who are in college, lower mortgage payments and in their prime earning years.

Many are over 65, but have good health and other sources of retirement income. On the other hand, lower assessed valuations may be needed to cover high mortgage payments, higher property taxes and the cost of bringing up children, even though they likely have higher incomes.

A 20-year parcel tax, assuming a 3 percent interest rate, would be about \$55 per year per residence. Conversely, a 20-year ad valorem tax, in which the tax is based on each property's assessed value, means that some residents would pay about \$40 per year on homes assessed at \$100,000. Newer residents in homes assessed at \$300,000 would pay three times more or about \$120 per year. If an ad valorem tax is used, future tax increases would be much less affordable.

About 35 percent of our current homeowners have homes with assessed values of \$100,000 or less. By capping the annual cost at \$55 per year for all homeowners, more voters could afford the tax and therefore presumably future taxes by the necessary two-thirds approval to finance the public safety building and other capital improvement projects. Also, the ad valorem tax assumed to increase by the maximum 2 percent per year as allowed under Proposition 13, while the parcel tax would remain the same over the 20 years.

Newer residents believe that they should not have to subsidize older residents who pay significantly lower taxes. With any organized opposition from newer residents who resented being treated unfairly, an ad valorem tax would be a lost cause. In short, we could win the battle (fund the Swim Center) and lose the war (fail to fund future tax measures for any of the remaining \$25 million of capital improvements).

Since a parcel tax would cost every homeowner about \$55 per year, while an ad valorem would cost about \$40 per year for homeowners with assessed valuations of \$100,000. This is based on a 5.5 percent interest rate for parcel tax and a 3 percent rate for an ad valorem tax, reflecting the latter's perceived lower risk to the bondholders. Under an ad valorem tax, the city is committing to exercise its taxing authority to the bondholders, no matter what.

Under a parcel tax, the city is obligated to collect the tax each year, providing it has "full use and enjoyment of the facility." As a practical matter, even if the facility is somehow unavailable for use, the city would collect the tax and the bondholders. Doing otherwise would make it impossible for the city to ever borrow again.

When the Oakland City Hall was damaged in an earthquake, the city of Oakland continued making bond payments while the facility was being repaired in order to avoid default.

Other considerations:

City Council and voter approval necessary: To place a parcel tax on the ballot, it requires a two-thirds majority, or three of five

council members, voting at two meetings. To place an ad valorem tax on the ballot, it requires two-thirds votes or four of five council members at two meetings, followed by a majority vote at a third meeting.

Both the parcel and ad valorem taxes require two-thirds voter approval. Both measures would identify the cost of the improvements and the tax measure itself and proceeds could be used only for those purposes.

Setting the tax rate: For parcel taxes, the tax on residential units would be about \$55 per year. Tax rates for multi-family units and commercial parcels would likely be set on an acreage basis at one rate, while vacant parcels and open-space parcels such as the golf course and cemetery would be based on an acreage basis at a lower rate. To make the process cost efficient, the city would likely hire the same person who prepares the annual engineering report for the city landscape and lighting district. For an ad valorem tax, the amount of the tax would be based on the value of each owner's property, such as about 40 cents per \$1,000 or \$40 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

Low income exemption or reduced tax payments: Under a parcel tax, the city could provide a partial exemption for lower income residents, with eligibility based upon whether the homeowners are eligible for lifetime utility rates. Linking the eligibility to existing programs reduces administrative costs.

Under an ad valorem tax, elderly, disabled and blind homeowners would be entitled to state assistance to pay the tax provided they met the income eligibility requirements. Under one program, the tax is deferred and a lien levied on the property is payable to the state when the home is sold. Under another program, low-income owners can receive a grant from the state for a portion of the tax.

Use of cost savings/higher revenues: I favor a tax measure that would obligate the council to establish a designated and restricted maintenance reconstruction fund for the Swim Center. The fund would be financed with any savings realized from lower annual operating costs and greater revenues realized from the renovated Swim Center. Estimates from lower utility costs and chemicals usage coupled with potentially increased revenue from charging higher fees to swim in a new facility with added programs may exceed

\$100,000-200,000 annually.

I also want the tax measure to state that the city will raise at least \$500,000 or about 10 percent of the cost of the Swim Center through grants, contributions and fund-raising. The monies could be used to finance amenities, reduce the size of the bond issue, or if the bonds have already been issued, such monies could be used to pre-pay the debt. This would save interest costs and demonstrate good faith to the voters who will be asked to support tax measures to finance other capital improvements in the future.

Additional inducement to vote "yes": Voters could be given several swim tickets each year to be used for lap swim, water aerobics and public swim. This would encourage usage and help offset the cost of the parcel tax or increased fees charged at the new facility. The swim ticket distribution could be limited to the first few years or continue through the life of the debt financing.

Sharing the cost of the new Swim Center with non-residents: As stated earlier, only about 10 percent of El Cerrito households use the Swim Center. These include children of all ages who may use the pool because they are enrolled in the city operated child care centers, Portola Middle School or El Cerrito High School. Moreover, they comprise about 50 percent of the pool patrons overall. The other 50 percent represent child care participants and middle school and high school students or adults who live in neighboring communities and attend El Cerrito swimming programs.

In conjunction with the tax measure, we need to review our policies regarding fees charged non-residents and direct or in-kind exchanges with the West Contra Costa School District for the use of our Swim Center as part of their athletic programs and swim meets.

Given that the facility will be new and improved, we should find ways to pass on some of the costs to the non-residents. Like the plan of using cost savings and higher revenues above, we should use higher income earned from non-residents to reduce the cost of the tax measure to El Cerrito voters.

Use of real estate property transfer tax proceeds: I favor a tax measure that would obligate the council, effective Jan. 1, to establish an additional designated and restricted maintenance and reconstruction fund for capital improvement projects, including the Swim

Center. The fund would be financed with proceeds from the city's real estate property transfer taxes. Placing this obligation in the tax ordinance creates a closer connection between funding and maintenance issues for capital improvement projects in addition to the Swim Center. Although it could supplement the other proposed fund noted earlier, it would be available to fund other infrastructure needs.

The real estate property transfer tax of \$7 per \$1,000 imposed in 1991 is relatively painless, and does not exceed the rates charged by neighboring communities. The tax helps to recoup some of the property taxes forgone under Proposition 13. For example, a resident with a home assessed at \$100,000 is probably paying about \$400-600 per year in property taxes. If the home sells for \$300,000, the city would receive a one-time property transfer tax of \$2,100.

The amount of the real estate property transfer tax collected each year varies widely because it depends upon the number of home sales and prices of homes sold.

The level of home sales depends upon the health of the economy, interest rates, relative attractiveness of living in a particular community and outlook for the future. The transfer tax is volatile and hard to predict year to year.

In El Cerrito, recent tax proceeds have ranged from less than \$400,000 two years ago to \$1.2 million in the current fiscal year. It therefore makes more sense to designate proceeds for maintenance and capital expenditures than for operating expenses. The current high level of tax proceeds could be used to reduce the size of the tax measure for the Swim Center, thereby reducing the cost to the El Cerrito taxpayers.

When property transfer tax receipts fall, maintenance and capital expenditures can be curtailed without having to resort to employee layoffs. This would not be the case if the taxes cover operating expenses. It is much fairer to our city employees and those who enjoy our city services to minimize the risk that programs are cut and staff is laid off just because the funding source is so volatile. No one benefits when there are huge peaks and valleys in spending for city services.

Linking the real estate property transfer tax to infrastructure spending greatly increases the chances that the tax can be preserved. El Cerrito voters have pent-up demand to fund capital improvements that believe need renovating or replacing due to years of deferred maintenance and sheer age. Given the widespread support for infrastructure spending, voters will be more willing to ensure this tax continues if it funds capital expenditures only. This linkage ensures the tax's long-term future. Maintenance funds cannot be cut from the operating budget just because we designate the property transfer tax for infrastructure needs.

Conclusion: I believe the tax

structure outlined above will be adopted by my fellow council members because it will have the best chance of being approved by two-thirds of El Cerrito voters in the March 2000 election.

It is time to join together and address a near-term need to finance our Swim Center and parks, and lay the groundwork to finance our many other capital improvement needs including our streets and public safety building in the future.

I invite anyone interested in sharing their views about funding the Swim Center and other capital improvements and in working on a March 2000 tax measure to attend the council meeting on Nov. 15.

Letters

FROM PAGE A4

An update about Cerrito Creek

Here is an update on creek-related matters from Friends of Five Creeks:

Thanks to Janet Abelson for the help in finding sampling sites on Cerrito Creek. We determined that the high concentration of chlorine (and lack of bacteria) in the north fork of Cerrito Creek (the creek that comes down from Sunset View Cemetery) does not come from the EBMUD filter plant—there is no chlorine in the creek next to Colusa in the cemetery, downstream from the filter plant.

The source probably is not a laundry or similar establishment, since the U.S. EPA lab, which is testing our samples, did not find free chlorine (such as would come from bleach), but only total chlorine (which includes chloramines used by EBMUD). The most likely source is a water-main leak somewhere near the underground stretch between Colusa and BART or a storm sewer feeding into that reach. We have informed the City of El Cerrito and EBMUD. It remains to be seen whether EBMUD will find the leak.

An El Cerrito-Albany-Richmond committee including neighbors is making steady progress on a conceptual plan for restoration and a trail along Cerrito Creek from San Pablo to Pierce. At Friends of Five

Creeks urging, the City of Berkeley protected the bare south banks of Cerrito Creek north of Albany Hill with matting.

This should prevent winter erosion along the finally-completed sewer main, pending further restoration and planting with natives next year.

Pools stepping Middle Creek down into Cerrito Creek in a more natural way are expected to be completed by mid-November. Friends of Five Creeks remains concerned about the invasive waterweed filling much of the channel near Creekside Park. This could increase flooding (though the plants may simply "lie down" and let water pass).

Friends of Five Creeks

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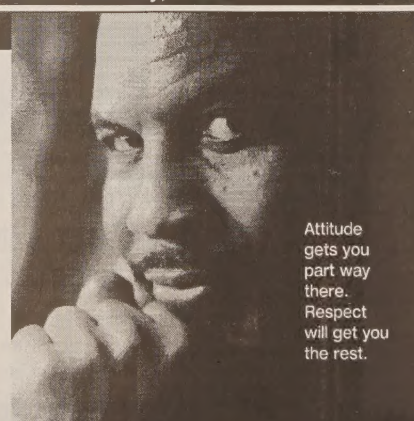
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An issue too real to ignore

Last Wednesday was the first really cold day of the fall, and as I was walking out of the Ashby BART Station that morning I was approached by a beggar.

Normally, I just shine them on, as I guess most of you do, too. But this one was different. She was a very tiny, very frail elderly woman, wearing a thin white shawl that she wrapped tightly around her shoulders, trying to protect herself from the chill.

"Please, sir," she said, "I haven't had anything to eat in two days."

Naturally, I gave her everything in my pocket. But I haven't been able to stop thinking about her since.

Everyone talks about how great the economy is doing. But how great can it be when so many poor and homeless people are still on the streets?

Now, I know some street people are winos. And others are mentally ill. But this woman appeared to be neither.

And even if they are, does that absolve us from responsibility? Especially with cold weather coming on?

When I was a kid, it was unheard of to see homeless people walking the streets, especially in such numbers.

The economists tell us that whenever there's a technological revolution like the one we're going through, some people are bound to be left behind. But they say that is more than made up for by the vast number of new jobs being created by the new technology.

It sounds good on paper. But in real life, the people who lose their jobs are rarely the same people who benefit from the creation of new ones. (Not everyone can retrain to be an Internet entrepreneur, you know.) But does that mean they've forfeited their right to food, clothing and shelter?

I can't help thinking that God is watching us. And he (or, if you prefer, she) definitely doesn't approve. Doesn't the Bible say, "Whatsoever you do to the least of my children, you do to me?"

I'm not suggesting you should go out and empty your wallet for the first beggar you meet. (Although it does have a liberating effect.) But now that we're in an election-year cycle, shouldn't we be demanding that the candidates talk about real issues like this, rather than whether Al Gore is an "alpha male" or a "beta male," or whether George W. used to do cocaine?

If we can't care for the most vulnerable among us now, when money is plentiful, how are we going to be able to care for them when this eight-year boom is finally over?

It's the same question that Cain asked God more than 5,000 years



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

ago: "Am I my brother's keeper?" And the answer is still yes.

OK, enough preaching. I just received what is by far the most civilized fund-raising letter I've ever seen. It's from Dick Grant, director of the Pacific Mozart Ensemble. And I quote:

"If your dot-com ship came in this year, we would love to share your windfall. But, as always, if this year had some bears devouring your bulls, don't worry about giving anything to us. Just come to the concerts, and we will try to give something to you. And if your last bull got gobbled up, remind them at the door that the ticket price is a donation, and come on in as our guest."

A cut above the usual hard sell, no? So I decided to match his generosity of spirit by giving a plug to the Pacific Mozart Ensemble's next concert, which is tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark's Church in Berkeley.

The first half of the concert will celebrate the millennium by performing one choral piece from each century: a work by Hildegard of Bingen from the 12th century, Guillaume de Machaut from the 14th century, Mozart from the 18th century, etc.

The second half will celebrate the 20th century by performing one great pop tune from each decade: "Ain't Misbehavin'" from the '20s, "Chattanooga Choo Choo" from the '40s, "Sh'Boom" from the '50s, "My Girl" from the '60s, "Love Shack" from the '80s, etc.

I don't know about you, but I can't wait to hear the Pacific Mozart Ensemble's rendition of "Love Shack."

Meanwhile, the Berkeley Potters Guild is also jumping on the millennium bandwagon. The guild's annual winter pottery sale (Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 4-5) will feature a special exhibit described as "a ceramic response to the millennium."

The title: "YZClay."

All this millennial talk feeds right into my consuming passion for history. Lately, I've been doing a lot of reading in medieval history. And the thing that fascinates me is how medieval kings had descriptive adjectives attached to their names — for instance, Charles the Bold, Louis the Fat and Ethelred the Unready.

These descriptions were literal: Charles really was bold, Louis really was fat and Ethelred really was, well, unready. (Don't ask, it's a long story.)

CUES

By BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY / Edited by Will Shultz

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It got me to wondering: What if we did the same thing today? The president would be called William the Slick. The vice president would be Albert the Stiff. The secretary of state would be Madelyn the Im- placable. The prime minister of England would be Tony the Cool.

The mayor of New York would be Rudy the Ruthless. His probable opponent in the Senate race would be Hillary the Long-Suffering.

Closer to home, da mayor of San Francisco would be Willie the Arrogant. His counterpart in Oakland would be Jerry the Enigmatic. And the governor of California would be, of course, Gray the Gray.

Anyway, it's a fun parlor game to play, and I'm open to more nominees. Readers?

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039; write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road., Oakland CA 94619; or e-mail him at catman@california.com

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Kensington School sets garden party fund-raiser

STAFF REPORTS

Kensington Hilltop Elementary School will be holding its annual fall fund-raiser, "The Garden Party," on Saturday evening, Nov. 13. This fund-raiser helps to pay for the school's science, computer, art, vocal music, and Oceans Week programs, as well as for necessary materials and supplies that the school district is unable to provide.

For the event, parent volunteers will transform the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley (in Kensington) into a lovely garden setting, complete with elegant floral arrangements and topiaries.

Fine local restaurants, including Cesar and Masse's Pastries, will feature guest chefs at the event. Luscious appetizers and delicious desserts will be prepared by parents. Live music throughout the evening will include Jeanne Walpole Crooms playing classical piano music, and the Just Say Jazz quintet playing toe-tapping jazz standards.

The evening will also feature a silent and a live auction. For the silent auction, there will be services and goods, such as books, artwork, sporting equipment, gift certificates, antiques, toys, and much more. The live auction will include the larger items of the evening, including many wonderful getaway trips and vacation packages.

The community is invited to attend the event, which begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, One Lawson

Road, Kensington.

Tickets will be \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. To reserve tickets, call Cathy Travlos at 528-5152.

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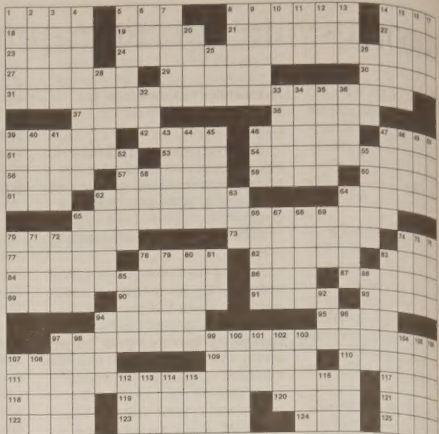
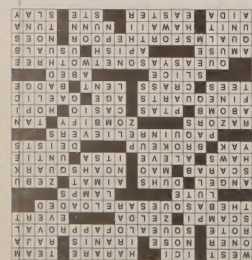
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Majority vote initiative qualifies for March ballot

Proposition 26 increases opportunities for local investment in school facilities

In recent years, West County voters have overwhelmingly said "Yes!" to additional investments in public education. In 1996, voters passed Measure "E" by a 68 percent margin, increasing the 'Maintenance and Assessment District', an additional parcel tax for our schools. Last year, voters passed the district's school bond in over thirty years, Measure "E", providing the funds for the much-needed Richmond middle school for which construction is set to begin next year. But times have not always been so good. In the 1980s and early 1990s, several local school-funding measures failed to garner the two-thirds "super-majority" required under California law.

According to Los Angeles Times reporter George Skelton, "California is one of only four states that require a two-thirds vote to approve local school bonds. There's a misconception that California's mandate was imposed by Proposition 13, the 1978 property tax-cutting initiative. Actually, it's a 120-year-old relic, dating to an anti-tax revolt that swept America following the Civil War."

Here in West County, lack of funding has combined with the district's bankruptcy to create a double whammy for the schools. In a little-

known aspect of our school district's bankruptcy settlement, the district was precluded for most of this decade from receiving funding from the state school building and maintenance program.

Proposition 26 on the March 2000 statewide ballot will let voters decide by majority vote how much of an investment they will make in their children's schools. Called the Let's Fix Our Schools initiative, it will reduce the two-thirds requirement for passage of local school bonds to a simple majority (50 percent plus one).

Proposition 26 helps voters to invest in their local schools while holding school districts strictly accountable for every dollar spent. Each school improvement project will be required by law to undergo a performance and financial audit to ensure that all projects are done on time and on budget.

A diverse and broad-based coalition has formed in support of Proposition 26. Key supporters of the initiative include the California Teachers Association, California School Boards Association, the League of Women Voters, the California Chamber of Commerce, a broad array of labor organizations, and the California State PTA.

These groups, and dozens of other

West County School Watch

By Glen Price

ers, support Proposition 26 because they know that good schools are key to our future, and a foundation for a healthy, growing economy.

An Oct. 29 Field Poll indicates that California voters agree. In that poll, 59 percent of those surveyed said they support Proposition 26. In poll after poll, Californians report that our children's education is by far the most important priority.

But lest we get complacent, a similar initiative, Proposition 170, failed miserably in 1993. To pass this spring, Proposition 26 needs the help and support of all concerned citizens.

All public school students in California are entitled to quality facilities, but an unfair two-thirds vote requirement has combined with age to keep our children in overcrowded and dilapidated classrooms. Here in West County most of our school facilities were built in the 1950s and 1960s and need major renovation and/or seismic upgrades.

In November alone, 14 districts in California received solid majority

support of 55 percent or more but failed to overcome the two-thirds vote requirement. By changing that requirement and instituting strict accountability standards, Proposition 26 will help to ensure that our children are able to learn in a clean, safe environment with modern technology.

As we move closer to the March election, I'll be providing more information on how to get involved and support the campaign. In the meantime, for more information on Proposition 26, check the Web site at www.letsfixourschools.com.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to pak-glen@aol.com. Glen Price is a member of the WCCUSD school board; the opinions and views expressed in West County School Watch are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WCCUSD unless otherwise noted. Back issues of West County School Watch and other items can be found on the West County School Watch Web site: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>

HOLIDAY RECIPES

Please submit your favorite Holiday-related recipe. Selected recipes will be published in our special Holiday section.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS Friday, November 12

Recipes will be printed on a space available basis. In the event of duplication, the earliest submission will receive consideration for publication. Due to the volume of recipes received, we will be unable to return your recipe. All recipes will become the property of Hills Newspapers Inc. publications.

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ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

Albany PTA council

- Director of Curriculum Marianna Camp needs parents to serve on the following committees; if interested, e-mail or call 559-6620.
- Nov. 15, Elementary Curriculum Discussion
- Daytime Meetings TBA, Curriculum Specific Committees for Math K-5 and Social Studies K-8.
- Nov. 22, PTA Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m., location TBA

ATTENTION: SCRIP BUYERS.

As of Nov. 1, Safeway no longer sells paper scrip. PTA is converting to electronic scrip for Safeway and Andronico's; we will still sell paper scrip for Lucky's and Natural Grocery. E-Scrip is an electronic Scrip program where a supporter (you!) registers any or all of one's MasterCard, VISA, Discover, American Express, ATM, Debit or grocery loyalty (ie; Safeway Club) cards for a \$10 annual fee. Supporters then use their

registered cards when paying for merchandise at participating merchants. The merchant then donates a percentage of the sale to your PTA. For \$10, you can sign up one school. If you have children in different schools and wish to split the profits between schools, it will cost an additional \$5 per school per year to cover accounting costs. Better yet, ask a relative or friend to sign up for the other school, and you won't have to split the profits! To register your cards with eScrip, call 1-800-400-7878. For more information, check out the Web site at www.escripinc.com or call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782.

Albany High School

■ SCRIP Orders: Support AHS by buying Safeway, Andronico's, Lucky or Natural Grocery certificates. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782 or Belinda Lum at 528-2429. E-mail Linda at CHO.PRN.LO@CHO.ORG or Belinda at Robertmarshall@sprintmail.com

■ Nov. 12-13, "Tom Jones," 8 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ Nov. 16, Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Room 49

■ Nov. 16, College Financial Planning Night, 7:30 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ Nov. 17, PTA-sponsored Career Day, AHS

■ Nov. 19-20, "Tom Jones," 8 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ Nov. 21, "Tom Jones," 5 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ Nov. 20-21, Cody's Books Fundraiser (Cody's will donate 20 percent of your net purchases, including gift certificates, to AHS PTA). Stores at 2454 Telegraph Ave. or 1730 Fourth St. in Berkeley. Send or bring receipts to AHS Main Office, 603 Key Route Blvd., Albany 94706.

Albany Middle School

■ SCRIP Orders: Support AMS by buying Safeway certificates. Call Karen Moss at 526-2018 or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782.

■ Nov. 20-21, Cody's Books Fund-raiser (Cody's will donate 20 percent of your net purchases, including gift certificates, to AMS

PTA). Stores at 2454 Telegraph Ave. or 1730 Fourth St. in Berkeley. Send or bring receipts to AMS Office, 1259 Brighton Ave., Albany 94706.

■ Nov. 30, Parenting an Adolescent: What's Happening to Your Child?, a parent education evening featuring Family Therapist Ilene L. Dillon MFCC, LCSW, 7:15 p.m., AMS Library. Questions may be submitted to the speaker before the meeting at or FAX 510-223-4171

Cornell Elementary School

■ Safeway, Lucky, Andronico's, Natural Grocery and Berkeley Bowl SCRIP for sale Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:15-8:45, and Wednesday after school.

■ Nov. 17, PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Marin Elementary School

■ SCRIP for sale Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings before school, at both early- and late-bird times, and Wednesday after school. Orders can be placed in office at any time.

Holiday Boutiques

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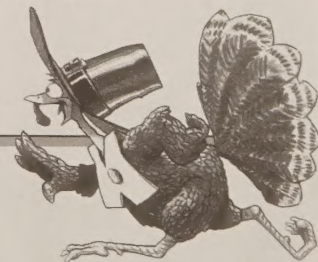
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


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
**Offer requires new service subscription and activation with a 1-year service agreement on eligible rate plans in San Francisco Bay region between 1/1/99 and 12/31/99. Not redeemable for cash or credit. Sales tax applies to full retail value of phone. Subject to credit approval. \$20 activation fee. \$150 termination fee. Deposit may be required. No in-network roaming charge (our California and Nevada network) but airtime and long distance charges apply. 1,000 free night and weekend minutes applies to rate plans \$29.99 and above. Night minutes are M-F 8:01 p.m. to 6:59 a.m. Weekend minutes are Saturday 12 a.m. to Sunday 11:59 p.m. Additional conditions apply. See store for details.

169⁹⁹

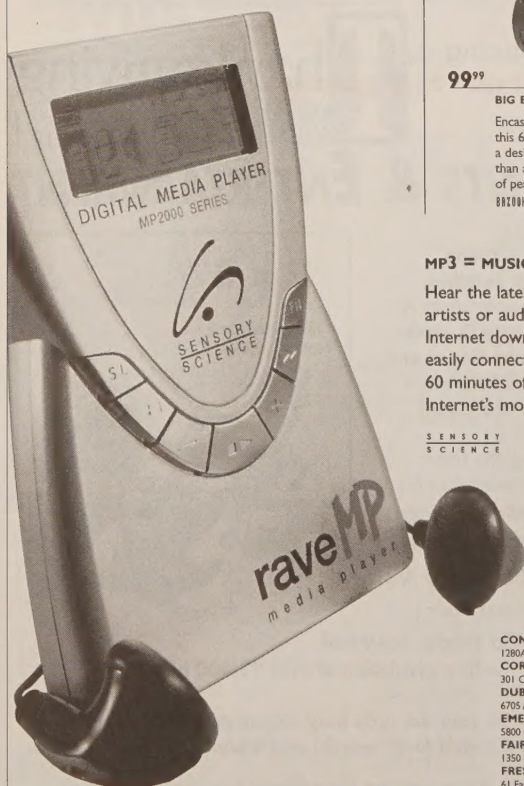
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It's a cell phone with wireless web access, right in the palm of your hand. The easy-to-read 8 line display is the perfect way to browse the web and read e-mail. Up to 3 1/4 hours of talk time & 5 days standby time. E120

 Sprint PCS

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MP3 = MUSIC FOR FREE

Hear the latest songs from your favorite artists or audition hot new bands with free Internet downloads. This compact recorder easily connects to your PC to store up to 60 minutes of near-CD quality music from the Internet's most popular music sites. MP2100

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229⁹⁹
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
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EASY ACCESS 5-CD CHANGER - THE QUICK CHANGE ARTIST

Unlike most models, this CD player has a fully opening carousel tray that gives you the ability to change all five discs in the changer at once. Also has the convenience of 4-disc play exchange. CDCS75
● YAMAHA

299⁹⁹

THIS DOLBY® DIGITAL RECEIVER GOES WAY BEYOND "STEREO"

Step up to the next level of home entertainment. This receiver packs 80 watts per channel power, the same Dolby® Digital technology found in big theaters, and one of lowest prices you'll find on a digital receiver. STRDE635
SONY 

249⁹⁹

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DVD/CD PLAYER WITH DOLBY® DIGITAL, DTS, & COMPONENT VIDEO OUTPUTS

Enjoy twice the picture quality of regular VHS tapes, as well as surround sound capability. DV525



Pioneer
*299⁹⁹-\$50 mail-in rebate = \$249⁹⁹

FREE Pokemon DVD movie
with purchase of this Pioneer DVD player

499⁹⁹

5-DISC CHANGER PLAYS BOTH DVDS & CDS

Features Dolby® Digital and DTS surround sound outputs plus component video outputs for maximum picture quality with compatible TVs. DVDC220

Panasonic

799⁹⁹

HERE AT LAST — WORLD'S FIRST PROGRESSIVE SCANNING DVD PLAYER


DVD gets even better when you connect this player to an HD-capable TV because you'll experience a smoother, more film-like picture without visible scan lines on the screen. Twin trays accommodate two discs at a time, and component video outputs and a universal remote control are included. SDS109

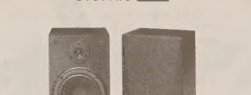
TOSHIBA

599⁹⁹

THE DOLBY® DIGITAL RECEIVER FOR MUSIC ENTHUSIASTS

Unlike most surround sound receivers, this one separates individual speaker signals to produce stereo music from all five home theater speakers. Features 75 watts x 5 channels of power. AVR1800

DENON 

399⁹⁹

HARD ROCKING SPEAKERS, EASY LISTENING PRICE

Let's face it. Sometimes you just need a good, basic pair of speakers that rock. Compact in size and price, these bookshelf models are equally effective as front or surround speakers. NSA528

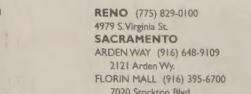
● YAMAHA

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"TAKE 5" COMPACT HOME THEATER SPEAKER SYSTEM WITH POWERED SUBWOOFER

Incredibly compact in size, but big on sound, this system includes four cube speakers and a matching center channel speaker to give you precision balanced surround sound. It also features a compact 100-watt powered subwoofer and an elegant black finish that helps it blend into almost any decor. TAKES/EXLS8

ENERGY



Color TV

99⁹⁹

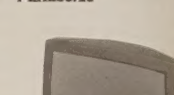
13" PORTABLE BRINGS TV AND FM RADIO TO ANY ROOM

Put a little entertainment in your bedroom. Features front A/V inputs, sleep timer, remote. W4913LT
● SONY

329⁹⁹

20" TV/VCR COMBO WITH VCR PLUS

Mighty convenient entertainment with Plus+ for easy taping, front A/V inputs, clock, remote control, and even a built-in radio. PVM2059
Panasonic

449⁹⁹

CONVENIENCES GALORE IN THIS NEW 27" SET

Guide Plus+ Gold shows you TV listings for the next two days. And there's broadcast picture-in-picture, as well as component inputs. TP2797B
● PHILIPS

599⁹⁹

ADVANCED FEATURES IN THIS 32" STEREO TV

Stands out from other sets in this price range because it has a digital comb filter for color picture and a temperature control that adjusts for room lighting conditions. CZ32T10
TOSHIBA

99⁹⁹

SATELLITE TV SYSTEM AT A VCR PRICE

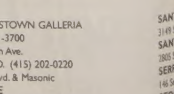
Start enjoying over 200 channels of entertainment now. Complete DIRECTV® system includes receiver, satellite dish antenna, and remote control. HSYS-D1131
HUGHES

Get 32 free premium movie channels including HBO®, STARZ®, and SHOWTIME®. Jan. 16, 2000 A value of over \$100. Just buy the DIRECTV System and subscribe to DIRECTV Choice® programming. See below for full details.

89⁹⁹

VCR HAS FOUR HEADS FOR BETTER PERFORMANCE

One pair of heads is optimized for fast forward speed, so you get a clearer picture and less special effects, such as freeze frame. VCR-4
SHARP



Due to special circumstances, some items may be limited to stock on hand or limited to one per family at the discretion of the Manager. We reserve the right to limit quantities to ensure sufficient quantities for you, our customers.

*For typical installation in most cars. Installation accessories, if necessary, are not included.

SONY OFFER subject to credit approval, no finance charges will be assessed and no minimum monthly payment will be required on your promotional purchase amount if you pay the total minimum payment due on your account each month when due, and you pay your promotional purchase amount in full by the date due in July 2000. Minimum monthly payments are required during and after the promotional period on all balances that are not exempt from

monthly payments. If the total minimum payment due on your account is not paid each month when due, or your promotional purchase amount is not paid in full by its due date, finance charges will be assessed on your promotional purchase amount from the transaction date (or, at our option, from the date the transaction is posted to your account) and minimum monthly payments will be required on the balance of your promotional purchase amount. Variable APR = 22.98% as of 9/16/99. Fixed APR of 24.75% applies if payment is more than 30 days late. Minimum finance charge of \$1.00. A credit service of GE Capital Consumer Card Co., an Ohio banking corporation. Offer good from 1/1/1 to 1/29/00 on purchases of \$499 or more of Sony consumer electronics products, Sony VHS VCRs, or Sony WebTV. (Sony PlayStation, computer products, and pre-recorded software are not eligible.)

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20" TV FROM THE AUDIO EXPERTS
 Awa introduces TVs to go along with their popular audio systems. It's stereo, of course, and features front A/V inputs plus remote. TV52011
AWA



27" STEREO TV WITH GUIDE PLUS+ GOLD ON-SCREEN PROGRAM LISTINGS
 See what's going to be on over the next 48 hours, right on the screen. Guide Plus+ Gold also provides one-touch automatic recording with your VCR. Best of all, this handy service is free. F27645
REA



TRINITRON 27" STEREO TV WITH 2-TUNER PICTURE-IN-PICTURE
 The clear picture is enhanced by a digital comb filter that helps keep colors from blurring. Includes universal remote control. KV27566
SONY
No Payments & No Interest until July 2000 see below for details.



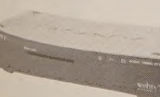
THE BEST PANASONIC 32" TV IS SUPERFLAT
 And the SuperFlat picture tube is 30% flatter for a more natural picture with less glare. Includes 2-tuner P-in-P and universal remote. CT32SF36
Panasonic
No Payments & No Interest until July 2000 see below for details.



30" SILVER SERIES PROJECTION TV FEATURES 2-TUNER PICTURE-IN-PICTURE
 It also has a 3D Y/C digital comb filter for exceptional picture quality. Other highlights are component video inputs and multi-brand remote control. VS50605
MITSUBISHI
No Down Payment, No Monthly Payments & No Interest until 2001 see below for details.



PERFORMANCE AND CONVENIENCE IN THIS LOADED VCR
 Hi-Fi stereo sound and four heads offer quality performance. VCR Plus+ instant programming and 1 multi-brand remote add convenience. SLV779HF
SONY
No Payments & No Interest until July 2000 see below for details.



HEAVY CLASSIC INTERNET TERMINAL
 Heavy Classic Lets You Surf the Internet and E-mail on Your TV. Compact model features a 156" modern, built-in printer port, and a programmable TV/Internet remote control. Requires network subscription to Microsoft WebTV. INTW150
SONY
No Payments & No Interest until July 2000 see below for details.

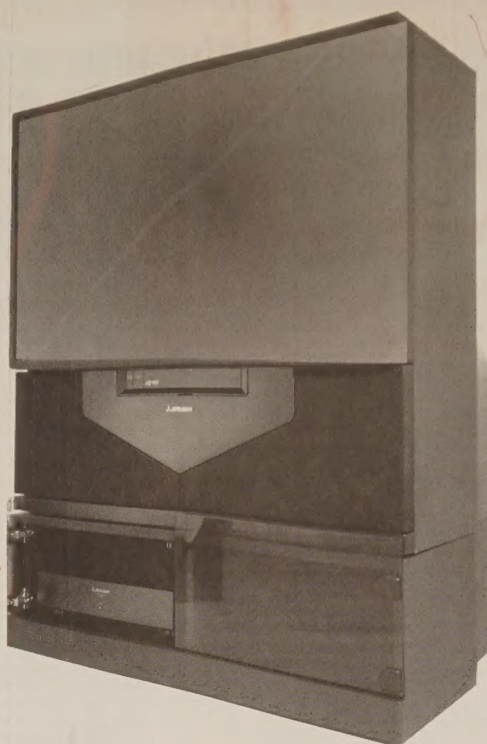
46" WIDESCREEN HIGH DEFINITION TV IS A COMPLETE HDTV PACKAGE

It consists of the 46" TV, which can fit on a tabletop, and the HDTV receiver/decoder — there's nothing else needed to enjoy your local HDTV broadcasts. Also features a built-in pixel multiplier to dramatically improve everything you watch. PKG-WT46805HD
 Optional stand shown MB46805 \$299.99

3999⁹⁹

SAVE \$2000 ORIG. \$5999⁹⁹

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Camcorders & Cameras



399⁹⁹

8MM CAMCORDER WITH 3" COLOR LCD SCREEN

With a 270 degree LCD twist screen you can maneuver more easily and get directly into the action. Includes 16x power zoom and the 3" smudge-resistant LCD view screen, and high-capacity NiMH battery. VLE630U
SHARP



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VHS-C CAMCORDER WITH 2.5" LCD SCREEN

VHS-C models let you play back your tapes on any VHS VCR. Get the best results with the 360x digital hyper zoom and the 2.5" color LCD monitor. Includes a convenient snapshot mode. GRAXM310U
JVC



999⁹⁹

SPECIAL FINANCING

DIGITAL CYBER-SHOT CAMERA BOASTS 2.1 MILLION PIXEL RESOLUTION

Capture images with excellent clarity and true color reproduction thanks to the famed Carl Zeiss lens. Also features 2" color LCD monitor, 5x optical/10x digital zoom, MPEG movie mode, and rotating lens. DSCF505
SONY digital

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1999⁹⁹

SPECIAL FINANCING

DIGITAL MEGA-PIXEL CAMCORDER WITH CARL ZEISS LENS & MEMORYSTICK IMAGE STORAGE

Refinements include LaserLink and NightShot for convenience and fun, a high quality mega-pixel still image chip, so this camcorder is also a great digital still camera. DCRPC100
SONY digital

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Portable Audio



79⁹⁹

THE BOOMBOX MISSION STATEMENT

I will be an easily portable and lightweight music solution dedicated to providing quality sound from my CD player, cassette deck, and AM/FM tuner. CSDEX151
AWA



119⁹⁹

NEW LOW PRICE

ROCK STEADY CD PLAYER

Sleek and sophisticated, this personal CD player features advanced 40-second anti-shock memory that helps keep music from skipping despite bumps, shakes, and jolts. DES65
SONY

Mini Systems



199⁹⁹

HIGH POWER, BIG BASS, SMALL SYSTEM

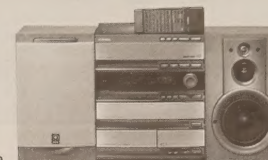
Today's music is all about bass. This is where subwoofers go to town. Using 100 watts of total power and a pair of subs, this system kicks more bass most systems its size. Also has a 3-CD changer. NSXA555
AWA



299⁹⁹

50-CD ALL NIGHT PARTY SYSTEM

Storing up to 50 discs, this system has one of the highest CD capacities found on any mini sound system. Add 160 watts of total power and a dual cassette deck and you've got one serious music system. MHCMI
SONY



399⁹⁹

FINE DESIGN MINI SYSTEM

Elegant style and rich amenities makes this one great for offices, dens, and bedrooms. A 3-CD changer, 150 watts of total power, and a complete music system just makes it great. GX500
YAMAHA

MITSUBISHI
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See full disclosure below.

SONY
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See full disclosure below.

g!
good guys

It doesn't get any gooder.



THE ART OF AUDIO

Taking audio in a new artistic direction, this system is highlighted by a sleek, wall-mountable design that's less than 4" thick. It also features a 3-CD changer, digital AM/FM tuner, and two remotes for total control. SS5

Nakamichi

799⁹⁹
NEW AT GOOD GUYS

Board votes to include community college bond measure on ballot

By Michelle Munn

The Peralta Community College District board of trustees unanimously voted to place a \$150 million bond measure on next November's ballot. If two-thirds of voters in Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Piedmont give the go-ahead, homeowners will pay \$13.44 per \$100,000 assessed property value annually for 20 years for classroom renovation.

Most buildings in the district's College of Alameda, Laney College, Merritt College and Vista College campuses are more than 30 years old.

Under the district's Facilities Master Plan, \$34 million from the bond is earmarked to build a new facility for Vista College. Vista College is currently spread over a main campus building and two leased annexes. Another \$1.5 million will build a biotechnology laboratory, an arts and conference center, and modern computer laboratories.

"Vista faculty, staff and administration fully support the chancellor's bond proposal," said Vista Public Affairs officer Shirley Fogarino. She estimated Vista College enrollment in-

creased between 9-16 percent over the last five years, making adequate facilities an urgent concern.

To gauge public reaction to the bond proposal, the Peralta Community College District commissioned a survey of 600 likely voters in the bond issue. Of those polled, 63 percent said they would favor a measure to raise \$100 million for facility construction. Twenty-five percent said they were opposed, and 12 percent were undecided. The survey has a 4 percent margin of error. When informed that the increase in property tax would be \$14 per \$100,000 assessed value each year, more than 76 percent answered they would support the measure.

Given that voters statewide may approve a separate proposition in March to make just a simple majority of votes required to pass a bond, rather than the current two-thirds majority, Peralta is optimistic.

"We are located in one of the most technologically advanced parts (of the world)," Peralta Community College District Chancellor Ronald Temple said. "We need to make sure people coming through our doors have access to the proper technologies."

Vista mentor program aims to help disadvantaged

Starting Point's founder proof of what can be accomplished

By James Carter

One day in 1995, Kathleen Jones-West climbed on a bus in the Crenshaw district of South Central Los Angeles, two small children in tow. Her once-peaceful neighborhood was in the early stages of urban decay. Jobs were scarce, crime was on the rise and gang members would fight over a parking spot.

With \$40 in her pocket and more than her share of aggravation, she got her kids settled into their seats, sat down, and prepared to move on — a decision that would prove to be the best she ever made.

Four years later, Jones-West is a senior at UC-Berkeley, where she recently established a mentoring program at Vista College for students transferring into Cal.

The program is called Starting Point. Starting Point takes what Vista College staff member Shirley Fogarino describes as a "holistic" approach to mentoring. It focuses primarily on economically disadvantaged students of all ages and aims to help resolve

family, social and medical issues that might prevent them from graduating, said Fogarino.

But back in 1995, going to the university was about the last thing Jones-West had on her mind. She was interested in one thing and one thing only — she wanted to find a safe place where she could raise her children.

After the bus trip from L.A., the young mother stayed with a friend in Oakland for three months, sleeping on a couch. Her children, then ages 8 and 12, camped out on the floor.

And, as if things weren't tough enough, one of her sons had heart disease.

Jones-West immediately found a job as a waitress and decided to go back to school. She enrolled at Vista College in Berkeley, working full-time, attending classes at night.

She found a place of her own and began the incredible challenge of raising a family, working and attending school all at the same time.

Jones-West graduated from Vista College with an associate of science degree in 1998, and enrolled at UC-Berkeley, where she is a social welfare major.

"When I considered transferring to UC, I was discouraged by many people," Jones-West said recently. "And for a variety of different reasons. There is a myth that there's no one attending school here but scholars — that it's not a community friendly

school. When I came up here and there was so much support, I felt I needed to go back and tell people.

"There are stories about Cal being an elitist campus, not open to diversity. I have found that not to be true, for the most part.

"If you have the motivation to do something with your life, you can do it here," Jones-West said. "They give you the opportunity to take the leap."

Jones-West began what she calls the Starting Point Mentoring Program as a pilot project for Cal WORKS and Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) at Vista College.

Thirty Vista students were "matched" with an equal number of Cal students who help those struggling with financial, social or family issues to stay in school.

"I didn't used to believe I was qualified to go to Cal," Jones-West said. "I know where people are coming from. But people would be amazed to see just what they can accomplish if they have faith in themselves and work hard."

Jones-West has faith in herself and

works hard. Next year she will graduate from the Cal. In fact, she couldn't be better, she said.

West lives above the university's UC family housing area, a condition — is healthy and on a football at school.

Though some would still say Jones-West remembers what it was like when she was struggling. She remembers what her mentor — a sor Harry Edwards — taught her.

"He said the degree was not going to get from UC-Berkeley, not protect us against the realities of life," Jones-West said. "He advised us to walk down graph Avenue and notice the of homeless people who were enough to eat. Then he said go out and do something."

And that's exactly what West did.

For more information about Starting Point program, call ext. 267.

Notice of Public Hearing City of El Cerrito Design Review Board

Study Session on Master Plan for City of El Cerrito Recycling Center

Including Replacement of Existing Pole Barn with a Steel Building, and Other Improvements

Wednesday, November 17, 1999, 7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito

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10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, 215-4330

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Karyn Connell & Christopher Young. Photo by Ashraf.



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100 Local Minutes for \$25 per Month OR 200 Local Minutes for \$35 per Month[†]

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Lumber

FROM PAGE A1

Victorian style and other special mill work done by the contractors.

The family also had a construction company in El Cerrito for many years. Elmer died last year, and the family was thinking of selling the property for some time.

While have approached the family with offers to buy the land, they said.

"Because it's time — the property is undervalued," Freethy said when asked if the family is selling. "As I told our investors — it was not an easy decision. We have a profit-making company, but business doesn't warrant the investment we have into the property."

The property, not only for us as citizens of El Cerrito, but for the citizens of El Cerrito, will be able to disclose a little more of it at the time, and also for new owners, I'm sure, will have

something to say about what they're going to be doing," Freethy said. "We definitely feel very positive for the development that's coming in here."

Joe Conwill, El Cerrito businessman and long-time friend of the Freethy family, said that the lumberyard's closing is indeed the passing of an era in the city.

"I think it's very sad for El Cerrito, but I guess all things pass their time," Conwill said. "That family did so much for El Cerrito. Elmer was certainly respected for many, many years — was always involved in everything, helping about everybody in El Cerrito."

Jack Freethy said that customers have become friends at El Cerrito Mill and Lumber.

"We've had wonderful customers over the years, and we think we've provided some services that a lot of businesses don't do and it's going to be hard to pull that away," Freethy said. "It's not only customers, but they become our friends — and that's why it's a hard decision."

Tract

FROM PAGE A1

university, citing agreements signed by giant biotech firms they say compromise the objectivity of research done and its direction at CNR.

"The University of California has been in a partnership with big business for a long time," said Shyaam Bhatnagar, co-chairman of BACUA, director of the Strong Roots Garden Program. "Why can't UC and the community reach common ground on the Gill Tract?"

Many individuals and community groups have joined together regarding the fate of the Gill Tract, he said.

The Bay Area urban agriculture community, students, parents worried about the use of pesticides, and others concerned about genetically modified organisms and the November 18 agreement all have a stake in what happens at the 12-acre site, he said.

Harm in Albany?

Saturday's meeting also focused on research coalition supporters said should be done at the Gill Tract by a BACUA/UC partnership.

All over the world, especially in Asia and America, there are really interesting models of what's called horizontal and vertical urban agriculture," said Raquel Rivera Penderhughes, a professor of urban studies at San Francisco State University.

There are increasingly innovative ways to use small spaces like urban gardens," she said, "including the Chilean model, which is a pyramid structure where plant boxes are stacked like steps so you don't take up a lot of room, but have a lot of plants."

Penderhughes said the Gill Tract could also be used to teach people how to grow food at their homes using composting and other organic techniques free of pesticides. She said such technology can also be applied to community gardens, a movement she said is already going strong in many parts of the world.

Growing student movement

Many students from Cal attended Saturday's meeting and discussed the need for "direct action" to put pressure on Berdahl to consider the BACUA proposal.

"There's a corporate takeover of the university," charged Chuck McNally, an undergraduate student and member of the Third World Liberation Front.

The TWLF battled to maintain and add ethnic studies classes at Berkeley last spring, a struggle that put it at direct odds with Berdahl. Following a number of large demonstrations and a well-publicized hunger strike, most of the students' demands were met.

"A lot of students I work with see not only ethnic studies issues, but also what's going on in the College of Natural Resources," McNally said. "The university is putting the interests of big business ahead of the good and the will of the people. That's the dynamic."

"Students are seeing the connections between the university and the World Trade Organization, and the structures that govern both. Both are very anti democratic and corporate influenced. Getting involved with this struggle is just the next level, trying to break those corporate ties and create new, positive ones."

Ignacio Chapela is a professor at the College for Natural Resources. He spoke about the development of genetically altered organisms and the



COURTESY JACK FREETHY

AN AERIAL VIEW of El Cerrito Mill and Lumber's buildings that take up start at San Pablo Avenue and continue a block past the BART tracks. The photo was taken before the main building (foreground) was given a complete remodeling.

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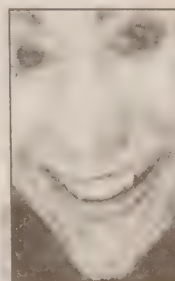
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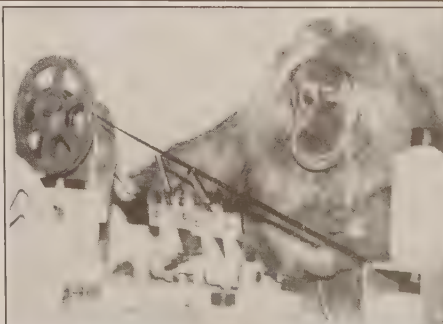
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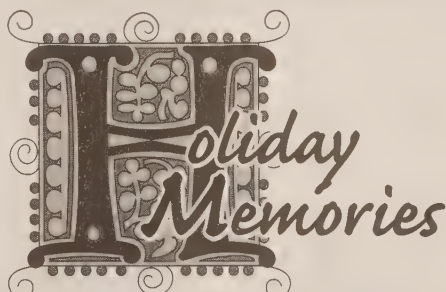
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Dining & Entertainment

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PARK NEIGHBOR Laurie Vogel and her son Daniel enjoyed the new playground equipment at Cerrito Vista Park last Thursday. Area kids weren't waiting for a formal dedication, however, and have been using the structure for a few weeks.

Cerrito Vista play structure dedicated

STAFF REPORTS

EL CERRITO — The new playground equipment and brick walkway at Cerrito Vista Park was dedicated and celebrated by the community last week.

More than 100 people attended a noon buffet luncheon and unveiling of the play area Thursday. The equipment installation and walkway were made possible by an El Cerrito Rotary Club challenge grant of \$12,500, and a "buy a brick" campaign that generated more than \$19,000 from individuals and businesses.

"It was such a great event. There were so many people from the com-

munity who turned out—past mayors and Rotarians and people who worked hard on the brick walk," said Mary Lyman, a Rotary Club member and teacher at Prospect Sierra School in El Cerrito.

Prospect Sierra donated the playground equipment from its Avis Street campus for the Cerrito Park effort.

"It looks really marvelous over there, and I think everybody's just ecstatic to have that nice equipment down there," Lyman said. "It was terrific. You couldn't have ordered up better weather for a November day than we had. It was beautiful and sunny and it just had such a nice

feeling to it."

The playground equipment brick walk are Phase I of the effort to improve Cerrito Vista Park. Community Services Manager Carlos Korts said.

Phase II will include a new additional lawn area and more small children.

About \$1,000 has been set aside for Phase II, and more bricks will be sold to cover the effort, Korts said.

"It was a great achievement for the community and it's good for the kids," Korts said about the dedication of Phase I.

Services

FROM PAGE A1

CotW Co-chair Thom Stark said he agreed the committee needs feedback from the City Council, but he said it should come from the new council that will be seated in December.

"Because they're going to have charge of this city going forward, as they're going to be constituted for at least the next couple of years. The ball's in their court now; it's not in the court of the council that appointed us," Stark said.

Other CotW members, while generally agreeing that the committee needs feedback or direction from the City Council, had different emphases.

Committee member Peter Loubal said the CotW members "should attempt to define our own role." Committee member Don West said it might not be a bad idea to "wrap it up and resign in mass" to let the new City Council decide if it wants to empower a new committee with a new mission.

"It's been going on too long — this is the longest citizens' committee I've ever served on," said West, who has a long history of elective and volunteer service in El Cerrito.

Committee member Evelyn Kiresen said the CotW represents "probably the broadest spectrum of opinion in this city." Kiresen said she would like the CotW to continue working on civic issues while getting feedback from the City Council. She

said the committee should "at least complete what we think is our mission at this point — and see what happens after that."

The Financial Review Team is currently working on a rewrite and refinement of its report on city finances that will probably be completed by February, Magyary told the CotW.

Assuming that the report and other matters are adopted by the CotW and passed on to the City Council, Magyary said "At that point we can say, we've done these things, and take the recommendations — take it or leave it. And we could tell them — do you wish for us to continue or not?"

The CotW also continued discussion on the matter of recommending a permanent Financial Advisory Committee to the City Council.

This committee would likely advise the council on fiscal and budget matters. The number of members and how they would be appointed to the advisory committee was debated by the CotW. It was generally agreed that the group should be relatively small, but no decisions were made last week.

The recent 1999 Pavement Management System Update and Cost Analysis prepared by Harris & Associates for the city was also discussed by the CotW.

That report found El Cerrito has \$5.3 million in deferred pavement rehabilitation costs. It also states that approximately \$10.6 million would be needed during the next four years to bring the city's streets up to a good rating. (Pavement Condition Index of 70 out of 100).

Financial Review Team Magyary suggested exploring term funding mechanisms for the Swim Center and other recreation funding street rehabilitation.

"We might be able to get a couple of years of deferred streets. It would be fifty-hundred dollars a year," Magyary said. He said the city "have a very short funding horizon for the pool, and then, even if we just continue that number of streets."

Several CotW members said streets and other infrastructure are more important than the Swim Center and cited such things as public safety building and so on.

"We have to look at the pool and let's face it, the pool is one of the basics," said committee member John Ward. "Yes, I think it sure helps the price of property, but the problem is that it's in trouble in the city." Ward said that more people use city parks than use the Swim Center.

"The pool, even though it's in the forefront — I feel that one that should be put last."

Others disagreed.

"I don't use most of the pool," El Cerrito said committee member Denise Fleig. "That's ridiculous say that because we don't have a pool, it costs too much." Fleig said taxes are low in El Cerrito compared to other towns that pay high taxes," Fleig told the committee.

"To talk about the fact that nobody can pay taxes, I think it's so specious, who wants to go through it all again?" he said.

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Real Estate & Home

The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

November 12, 1999

Section B

Dian Hymer CMA gives you a handle on the true value of your home [B6]

Open Homes Bring our handy listings house hunting with you [B12]



ALAMEDA'S red brick and sandstone City Hall was seismically upgraded after the Loma Prieta earthquake.

Old city halls fare well in Bay Area

Cities in the Bay Area often have a somewhat spotty record on preservation or adaptive re-use of historic public buildings, such as museums and libraries.

But, it's a different story when you're talking about the way various Bay Area cities have dealt with a very special category of historic public buildings: namely their city halls.

In November, 1989, one month after the Loma Prieta earthquake, I spoke before a standing-room-only crowd about the threat of demolition that was then hanging over Oakland's quake-damaged city hall building.

The meeting was sponsored by Oakland Heritage Alliance and was held in one of the recently retrofitted Victorian commercial buildings in Old Oakland, which had survived the recent quake without a scratch.

The purpose of this meeting was to send a message to Oakland's city government that its citizens wanted to have their historic city hall restored and retrofitted, not demolished. I opened the meeting by announcing "We come here tonight

Owning a Piece of History



By Mark Wilson

City halls are one category of historic public buildings in the Bay Area which almost always have been preserved or restored.

not to fight city hall, but to save it!"

The very large turnout at this meeting, and the subsequent publicity it generated, helped get this message through to Oakland's civic leaders, who soon after agreed to restore the old city hall building.

Fortunately, city halls are one category

Please see WILSON, Page B10

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Remodel heights - need space & want style? Sharp Tudor has been remodeled for comfort. 3BD/2BA with great kitchen/fam rm. across & n. side suite. Open 2-4:30 p.m. Richard Keeling



820 Nineteenth St.\$219,000
Oakland - Victorian Gem. Beautiful, newly painted 2-unit Victorian. Great investment. One 4BD, One 3BD. Ideal location. Open 2-4:30 p.m. Victor Ratto

FIRST OPEN 2-4:30

5399 Belgrave\$429,000
Rockridge - Location, Location. Walk to BART & shopping. Remodeled, details completely remodeled. David Eckert

40 Marsh Pl.\$575,000
Montclair (Piedmont Side) - What a location! Mostly level living on great cul-de-sac. 2BD/3BA. Pac. rm. Sunb. bay w. N. garden Storage! Open 2-5 p.m. Ruby Ng

1610 Leimert\$369,000
Tremore - What Ambiance! Just listed! Sunny 1939 bungalow with garden. Spacious formal rooms. 2BD/1BA. Great rec. rm. w/ 2nd FP. A must see! Karen Lum

4638 Park Blvd., Glenview\$219,000
One of Five! Ideal loc., end unit, clean contemp. style! Vaulted ceil. 2 decks, parking, convenient location. 2BD/1.5BA. Open Sat. 2-4 Lam. Day. Sun 2-4:30 Rachel Baller

3881 Lyman Rd.\$269,000

4638 Park Blvd., Glenview\$219,000

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Single women becoming powerful buying force

By Julie V. Iovine
NEW YORK TIMES

The words ring with romantic promise: "Evenings in front of the fireplace, and a morning jog along secluded pathways with familiar footsteps at my side..."

No, it's not a personal ad. It's the come-on of a Colorado builder making a sales pitch to single women buying houses.

So what if those familiar footsteps belong to the dog cuddling in the arms of a smiling, twentysomething bachelorette. The message is clear: Why wait for your prince to come? You can afford a house now — and "Woof! woof!" surely beats a husbandly whine.

In September, Owens Corning Inc., a Chicago-based manufacturer of building materials, introduced a television ad campaign called "Siding Beauty," in which a damsel awakens after 100 years to find that the vinyl siding covering her palace has outlasted them all.

Subliminal message: Men may come and go, but good siding is hard to find.

These scenarios were not scripted by writers of "Sex and the City," but by savvy marketers trying to reckon with the fastest-growing buying force — the single American woman.

The statistics are head-turners. Thanks to delayed marriages, profitable careers, higher divorce rates and longer lives, the number of women living alone has increased by more than a third in the past 15 years, to 30 million, according to the Census Bureau. Nearly 57 percent of single women now own their own homes, throwing cold dishwater on the accepted wisdom that houses are the exclusive territory of couples with children.

Women making strides

Most houses are still purchased by couples, but women living alone, or who are single heads of households, increased as a share of total home buyers, from 10 percent in 1985 to 15 percent in 1997. "That's a huge number, very dramatic," said Kermit Baker, an economist at Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies. For 1996 and 1997, single women outpaced single men in making home ownership an investment goal.

In the home-improvement arena, the weekend warrior is a she, taking on small fix-it's that once fell to the now-vanishing handyman. At the Home Depot in Clifton, N.J., recently, Denise Ramos, 36, was carrying a bundle of uncut trim she needed to finish the porch of a new house she had bought three months ago for \$133,000. To pay for the house, Ramos, who is divorced and has three children, holds down two jobs. "I wanted more space and a better life for my children and for myself," she said.

A half million people tune in weekly to PBS' "Handy Ma'am," starring Beverly DeJulio, a divorced mom and former dressmaker in Chicago. The magazine This Old House, a hammer-thumping bible for the mustard-stained T-shirt set, is undergoing its own renovation; a new editor, Donna Sapolin, wants to transform it into a guidebook for do-it-yourself lovebirds.

A new hard-hat set

Remember when hardware stores sold tools packaged with pictures of scantily clad lovelies? Now, women in hard hats adorn the labels, women are likely to be buying the tools and women are often even running the stores. At Ace Hardware, the inter-

national chain, more and more women own or manage its stores.

With their "Siding Beauty" ad campaign, Owens Corning was acting on a company survey on the next generation's home ownership priorities; 70 percent of female respondents between ages 23 and 35 claimed owning a house was their highest priority, above buying a car and paying off debts.

"We have seen a tremendous shift in women's roles in home improvement over the last 20 years," said Jerry Oleshansky, the company's vice president of marketing. "Just like their baby boomer mothers, these Gen X and Gen Y women are taking a hands-on approach, doing everything from planning the project to buying the products and doing the actual work."

And that's changing the industry down to its subflooring. Eight years ago, Nancy Stoner, a divorced mother of two, tried to build a house for herself and her sons in Lexington, Ky., but was forced to give up her dream when financing fell through. "Back then, it felt like the way car dealers used to treat women by asking, 'So where's your husband?'" said Stoner, a 49-year-old schoolteacher. "I couldn't go through with it."

More options

Her father, who built several houses when she was growing up, inspired her to keep trying. Today, Stoner is customizing a \$120,000 carriage house with Ball Homes of Lexington. She's removed walls between rooms, added bigger windows and requested a walk-out basement that works as a separate entrance for her boys, who are now in college.

"This time was a lot different," she said. "Everyone accepted me as I was, a single woman."

Donald Ball, co-founder of Ball Homes, said about 30 percent of his business is selling to single women. "They seem to like our garden-type houses with the smaller back yards walled-in," he said. "They like the security."

In Detroit, Bernard Gliberman, president of Crosswinds Communities, called single women "probably the fastest growing segment of the buying public in the last five years." He said, "The only thing we can figure is that young males think they're invincible and don't bother much about living arrangements, while young women think, 'I need some security,' and buy a home."

While the company, which builds 700 houses a year, has sold frequently to single women, it does not create plans specifically for that market. "We haven't changed anything," Gliberman said.

It was the industry's impassive attitude — acknowledging that single women are buying houses in droves, while not doing much to appease them — that finally drove David Miles, a real estate consultant, to create his ad featuring the young woman with her trusty dog for McStain Enterprises of Denver.

Slow response

"It is becoming obvious that single professional women have a different time line for their lives than men," he said.

"As they begin to make more money and become self-sufficient, they're less willing to commit to relationships until they're very sure of themselves. But they still want that home." Builders have been slow to design specifically for single women, Miles contends, because "most builders are small local companies,

Please see SINGLE, Page B7

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



4112 Patterson

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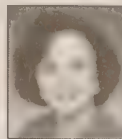
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725 Collier Drive, San Leandro

Wonderful 1930's home with style and architectural integrity. Lovingly maintained and located in the Estudillo Estates. 3BD, 2.5BA. Kitchen with adorable breakfast nook. Beautiful formal rooms. Separate living room. Bedroom and bath ideal for home office quarters or extended family Level deck and patio.

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New Listing



6219 Virgo Road, Montclair

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Offered at \$1,895,000

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Ordinance	10%	15%
City / Zip Codes	Premium	Premium
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Must a convicted drug dealer forfeit his home?

By Robert J. Bruss
JOURNAL MEDIA SERVICES

Charles was arrested by city police for selling cocaine out of his home. He was convicted in state court on drug possession and trafficking charges.

After the state conviction, the federal government brought this civil "in rem" action against the property action against his home, where the forfeiture took place.

Charles' defenses were (1) only one of his two residence lots were involved in the criminal activity, (2) the value of a home worth \$70,000 was far less than the \$3,250 was an excessive fine under the U.S. Con-

stitution, and (3) forfeiture of his home, after a state court criminal conviction is double jeopardy in violation of the Fifth Amendment.

Evidence showed Charles' arrest took place on parcel 56, so parcel 1, the front lot of the residence, should not be subject to forfeiture, he argued.

But the U.S. Government argued this was a single residence property, so both lots should be forfeited.

If you were the judge would you rule (1) only one parcel should be subject to forfeiture, (2) the property forfeiture is an excessive fine and (3) forfeiture of the residence is double jeopardy?

The judge answered all three questions no.

As to the first issue, the judge said, both lots 1 and 56 were part of Charles' residence although the arrest took place on lot 56. Lot 1 was the front yard, he said. Since both lots are part of the residential property, he said, they are both subject to forfeiture for illegal activity.

The second issue, as to the excessive fine, is more difficult, the judge said. Civil "in rem" forfeitures under federal law are considered by the U.S. Supreme Court as punitive fines under the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution, he said.

However, since the residence is

worth \$70,000 and the maximum fine is \$1 million, this forfeiture is not a grossly punitive fine, the judge ruled.

On the third issue of double jeopardy, the judge said, the criminal conviction was in state court.

However, this is a real estate forfeiture proceeding under federal law, so there was no double jeopardy violation under the U.S. Constitution's Fifth Amendment, the judge ruled.

Charles is ordered to forfeit lots 1 and 56 of his residential property where the arrests took place, he concluded.

Based on the 1999 U.S. Court of Appeals decision in U.S. v. 817 N.E. 29th Drive, 175 Fed.3d 1304.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 13

Open the tables on your landlord. A workshop from 10 a.m. to noon at 1000 Morris in Albany. Learn how you can reduce low housing costs through negotiating 2-4 units that include a home ownership plan. As little as 3 percent down in some cases.

Income helps you qualify and a great tax break. For reservations, call Karen Ward/Steve Scott of CMG Mortgage 510-718-2134.

Thursday, Nov. 13, and

Friday, Nov. 14

Orchid sale. The Orchid Society of California is holding its annual show sale on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 13 and 14, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lakeside Community Center, 666 Bellevue, in Lake Merritt's Lakeside Park. Orchid displays will be viewed from noon on Saturday and 9 a.m. and Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission. Notable orchid growers will participate in selling a wide variety of orchids and provide tips for the novice to the discriminating collector. Call Gilbert Rodriguez at 925-8622.

Thursday, Nov. 18

Building Industry Conference

Board's 50th Anniversary and Annual Awards Banquet: Nov. 18, Sheraton Palace Hotel, San Francisco. To register, call Greg Copley at 925-485-5000 or Tim Steele at 510-893-8337.

Tuesday, Nov. 30

Maybeck Foundation lecture.

William Maybeck is an architect and executive director of the Bernard Maybeck Foundation. He will give a talk for the Society of Architectural Historians on the space, structure and aesthetics of "Heaven and Earth" in Maybeck's masterpiece, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley. Free guided tour of the church from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., and will start his talk at 7:30 p.m. Corner of Dwight Way and Bowditch Street. Call 510-466-5401.

Ongoing

UC Botanical Garden. Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special-interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343.

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-5AVE.

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on

one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234.

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 510-643-2755.

Zero-down loans: Pizza seminar for East County families, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at First American Title, 3397 Deer Valley Road, Antioch. Presented by Community Funding. 925-778-4500.

First-time home buyers seminar: Learn how to buy a house in East County for minimal or no money down; classes held regularly at American Title, 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. Call 925-516-5795 for schedule.

Building Education Center, a nonprofit education organization at 812 Page St. in Berkeley, offers the following courses (most are hands-on workshops): 510-525-7610. ■ "Installing Windows, Doors and Skylights," 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; \$75. ■ "Faux Finish: Surface Transformations," 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday; \$95. ■ "Hardwood Floor Installation," 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; \$50. ■ "Alternative Materials: Cob and Strawbale," 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 13; \$75. ■ "Owner Contracting" (intensive on managing projects, cost estimating

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Featured Home of the Week

6219 Virgo Road - Open Sunday 2-4:30 **\$1,895,000**
Magnificent new Montclair home with fabulous level garden, exquisite master retreat, spectacular custom kitchen, grand living room, spacious family room, large recreation/media room, 5+BR/4.5BA, over 5500 sq. ft. Sherry Benninger

Piedmont - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

401 Wildwood Avenue **New Price \$1,195,000**
Extremely elegant Joseph Escherich designed home. Soaring 14' ceilings, two fireplaces opening to a formal courtyard & patio. 2BR suites & fabulous library. Elizabeth Dickson

1 Mesa Avenue **New Listing \$619,000**
Perfect for entertaining, this close-in traditional offers quality & style. 4BR including master suite, library & spacious breakfast room. Nancy Lehrkind

Oakland & Berkeley - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

5618 La Salle Avenue **\$2,750,000**
Open 2-5:00 p.m. Piedmont Side of Montclair. The pinnacle of quality. Approx. 8000 sq. ft. Exquisite detailing with bay/curved bridge views. Private gated road. LaSalle Estates. Virtual tour-GRUBBCo.com. Debra Dryden

120 Calvert Court **\$629,000**
Price Slashed. Located in a uniquely serene setting & a wonderful blend of indoor & outdoor living. 3+ BR/2BA, grand living room, formal dining & wine cellar. Sheila Gallagher

1120 Euclid Avenue, Berkeley **New Price \$1,150,000**
Sunning custom contemporary. 4+BR/3.5 BA, gourmet eat-in-kitchen, fabulous living room w/French doors to terrace views. Melitta Beeson

5959 Johnston Drive **New Listing \$575,000**
Custom contemporary. Enjoy gracious indoor/outdoor living in this beautiful 4BR/4BA home on Piedmont side of Montclair. Spacious lot. Michelle Winchester

33 Sheridan Road **New Listing \$959,000**
Sunning 4+BR/3+BA new construction in desirable upper Rockridge w/level garden, bay & bridge views. Top quality detailing throughout. Sheila Gallagher

320 Creighton Way **New Listing \$549,000**
This 10 yr. old custom home features sweeping SF bay views, fabulous master suite, library, elegant living room formal dining room & family room off kitchen. Ed Kuo

5132 Cochrane Avenue **New Listing \$879,000**
Sophisticated Deco masterpiece. Marble entry, formal dining & living room w/sweeping hill views. Kitchen/family room, air conditioned upper level, 3BR/2.5BA & decks. Ashley O'Neill

2718 Ninth Street, Berkeley **New Price \$329,000**
Fabulous, light-filled live/work condo in newer 7 unit building, 3 stories w/1BR loft on top floor. Bay views & off street parking. Karen Starr

1720 Manzanita Drive **\$829,000**
Spectacular views, stylish 3+BR/3.5BA totally updated home. Fabulous gourmet kitchen, wine cellar, sitting room could be 6th BR. Deck & garden. Judy Cain

1524 Hampel Street **New Listing \$309,000**
Glenview gem. Built-ins, upgraded kitchen. French doors off eat-in kitchen to delightful back deck. Freshly painted inside & out. Debbi DiMaggio

Piedmont - By Appointment

Georgian Estate **New Listing \$2,375,000**
This elegant Piedmont home has been beautifully updated & offers wonderful indoor/outdoor living. Fabulous kitchen/terrace room opens to patio for entertaining. 4BR/4+ BA, media room, den, rumpus & tennis courts. Jeanette Roach

Central Monterey Colonial **\$829,000**
Beautiful two story Monterey Colonial in prime central location 4+BR/3 BA, family room, lovely formal rooms & enchanting gardens. Connie Rogers

Oakland & Berkeley - By Appointment

Stylish Montclair Traditional **\$599,000**
Montclair Traditional. Spacious master suite w/bay view. 4BR/3BA 4th BR/BA possible family room or office. Connie Rogers

Great Claremont Contemporary **New Listing \$439,000**
3BR/2.5BA plus separate in-law unit. Move in condition. Great neighborhood, just minutes from Claremont hotel & shops. Josephine O'Shaughnessy

Upper Rockridge Charm **New Listing \$599,000**
Fabulous location. Formal LR & DR, gourmet eat-in kitchen & den. 3BR/2BA + RR or 4th BR. Deck & 1st yard. John Karnay

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Setting is beautiful! Behind a charming exterior you'll find beautiful maple floors, granite counters, marble baths, crown moldings & more! Mavis Delacroix



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Does your credit history make the grade?

Your credit report, written in a mysterious language, is sure to baffle anyone not in the mortgage industry — and many of those who are.

The credit report is how mortgage lenders grade your credit status, and like your test papers in classrooms of old, the lenders grade your credit papers from A to D.

Almost all of the mortgage loans advertised from television to billboards deal with what the mortgage industry considers "A" paper loans.

Like those report cards of old, an "A" paper means good, "B" means OK with some blemishes and "C" means not-so-good credit, but still a lendable borrower. "D" means bad credit.

Credit scores are the first thing considered when grading credit.

The three credit reporting bureaus each have their own model for scoring their reports, all formulated from the original Fannie Mae model, but their results can range widely.

The bureaus each have their own names such as: Experian has the FICO (formerly TRW).

Sometimes, all credit scores are referred to as FICOs; TransUnion has the Empirica and Equifax has the Beacon.

Good credit is considered with scores of 680 and above. Exceptional credit is at 720 and above. The best score that ever crossed my desk was an 840.

Scores can be as low as 640 and still be considered "A" paper

Mortgage Madness



By Karen Senzig

Credit scores are the first thing considered when grading credit.

with compensating factors.

Just below an "A" grade is "A-minus," usually characterized by a good credit history with a high debt ratio.

As credit rates, collections, mortgage rates, judgments and tax liens start piling up, a persona's credit rating deteriorates to "B," "C" or "D."

Some examples of the things that make for really bad credit:

- Bankruptcy within the last four years, especially if the borrower has not re-established at least three credit lines (or trades) over the last two years.
- Foreclosure or notice of default on a property owned by the applicant.
- Property tax liens and/or IRS and state tax liens.
- Late payments on installment loans for things such as cars, boats and RVs.
- Charge-offs from collection agencies and/or hospitals
- Persistent and continuous 30 day mortgage late

■ Sixty day or more mortgage late.

■ Pattern of revolving credit card late payments.

Late payment patterns are how lenders predict the future from judging the past.

For example, there is the borrower who will charge up his credit cards through the holiday period year after year and then consistently shows late payments in January, February and March, year after year as he tries to recover from his annual spending spree.

Your past credit history will determine your rate.

What does a credit grade mean? The worse your credit history, the higher interest rate you will pay. Lenders had guideline and rules that constitute "B," "C" or "D" credit.

Grading will depend on your credit history, ratios and loan to value.

The only way to determine your grade is to fill out a loan application and get a credit report that generates a credit score.

Appraisals are also a very important part of the process. "B" loans and below are subject to greater scrutiny than "A" loans and many lenders, upon review of the appraisal may reduce the value as the lenders consider the possibility of default and foreclosure.

Be prepared for the possibility of a reduction of as much as 5 percent of the value or the reduction of the loan amount. Lenders do this because, well, they "can".

"A-minus to "D" loans are often called "sub-prime loans". For borrowers falling in this category, we often suggest a two-year fixed-rate loan, since it usually takes at least two years to repair derogatory credit.

Sub-prime loans are not "keeper" loans. The goal is to spend at least two years improving the borrower's situation, by making all payments on time and then graduating into an "A" paper loan by refinancing.

But beware of the prepayment penalty. Nearly all sub-prime loans carry from two- to five-year prepayment penalties, usually six months interest if the loan is paid off before the prepayment term — and that can be a big bite in the wallet.

Lenders want to collect as much of that higher interest rate as they can.

They figure it's their reward for taking the risk of lending to the sub-prime borrower.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband, Scott. She can be reached at 510-339-8511; fax 510-339-3814 and E-mail ksenzig@aol.com. Please contact her with any mortgage questions and/or topics for discussion.

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Prince, Berkeley	8 units
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119 KENYON AVENUE KENSINGTON

Wonderful split-level in need of updating and happy faces.

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Sunday 11/14



Offered at \$410,000
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SUPER SATURDAYS START THIS WEEKEND!
Starting this Saturday, November 13th and the following Saturday, November 20th, canned goods will be received at local Albertson's (formerly Lucky's) & Safeway stores by Realtors and Affiliates for donation to the Bay Area Rescue Mission.

This annual event hosted by the West Contra Costa Association of Realtors will take place at the following store locations between the hours of 10 a.m.-4 p.m.:

Pinole	Valley View Rd. Albertsons, Fitzgerald Albertson's, Pinole Valley Rd. Albertson's
Hercules	Sycamore Albertson's
San Pablo	1-80/Tara Hills Dr. Safeway
Rodeo	Parker Ave. Safeway

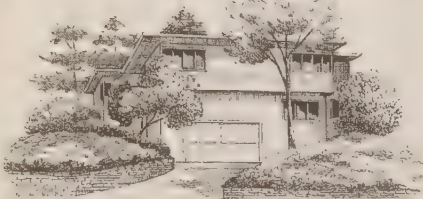
So bring your canned foods to the above locations...or go shopping at one of the stores and drop your canned goods into one of the baskets manned by a Realtor or Affiliate. Make the holidays a happier place for others...and you up happier too!

West Contra Costa
Association Of
REALTORS®



Bay Area
RESCUE
Mission

Open Sunday 2-4:30



5959 Johnston Drive, Montclair
This stylish and spacious home features sunny formal rooms adjoining a large landscaped patio and lovely garden. Four bedrooms and four full baths. Offered at \$575,000
Michelle Winchester
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NEW LISTING Open Sunday • November 14 • 2-4:30



3801 Brown, Oakland

Charming 1910 farmhouse with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, box beamed ceiling, and a large garden.
Offered at \$259,000



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NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 14 • 2-4:30



5785 Chelton Drive Panoramic 3-Bridge View Home!

Move right into this tastefully updated, level-in, stunning Bay view home and enjoy ...

- 3 Bedrooms/ 2 Baths • Family room • Spacious master suite
- Open living/ dining room with cathedral beamed ceilings and fireplace • Eat-in kitchen • Expansion possibilities
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Property



A Lovely, Gracious Home Near Berkeley's Indian Rock

This gracious home with its hand laid parquet floors and stinging view offers a golden warmth of traditional Berkeley style. Arched passages lead from formal entry to both the sunny living room and large formal dining room. You might settle in front of the classic fireplace and enjoy the view of Mount Diablo take in the sweeping views from the master bedroom of the Golden Gate, Alcatraz Island and Marin. There are irreplaceable touches here, like the beautiful tile and fixtures in the bathrooms, the newly finished oak hardwood floors, the traditional eat-in kitchen and other timeless details. Three spacious bedrooms and a half bath, street level 2 car garage with interior access and much more.
Call (510) 526-4336 for more information.

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Thousand Oaks District!



1874 San Juan Avenue, Berkeley Offered at \$550,000

This 4BR/2BA traditional has it all! Many original 1920 details combined with state-of-the-art kitchen & baths. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room, breakfast room, master suite & a peaceful back yard.



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Do-it-yourself home sales book has dual purpose

By Robert J. Bruss
MEDIA SERVICES

Do-it-yourself, By Ralph Roberts
Media Corp. Holbrook,
1999, \$12.95, 223 pages.
Available in stock or by special or-
der at local bookstores, public li-
braries and www.amazon.com.
Ralph Roberts, author of "Sell It
Yourself," claims to be the nation's
leading residential real estate bro-

With annual sales of about 600
thousands, no one is likely to challenge
his success record.

I was shocked, however, when I
started reading his latest book and
realized it tells homeowners how to
sell their homes without professional

help. I figured out the author's real
purpose: to overwhelm sellers about
the task of selling without an agent
and to teach sellers to be flexible and
cooperative with agents who have
answers for for-sale-by-owner (called
"FSBO") homes.

Although Halloween has passed,
the frights haven't stopped, as this
scary book about the complica-
tions of selling your home alone.
Roberts carefully explains all the
what is involved for do-it-yourself
home sellers who expect to "save
the commission."

After all, he emphasizes, that is
the only reason home sellers would
consider selling without professional

help. He launches into all the required
legal and sales steps, such as ob-
taining home sales disclosure forms,
state-based paint disclosures and
hazard disclosures.

Roberts barely refers to the diffi-
culty of preparing home sales con-
tracts. That's probably why he re-
commends home sellers hire a real
estate attorney.

The book's emphasis on home
sales details is enough to scare off
even the best lawyers from trying to

sell their residences without profes-
sional help.

However, Roberts sometimes goes
a bit too far when explaining all that
can go wrong with do-it-yourself
home sales, such as by implying do-
it-yourselfers don't have a chance for
sale without the powerful multiple
listing service.

Although the book has several in-
accuracies, such as stating 7 percent
sales commissions are standard (6
percent is the prevalent rate in most
communities) and emphasizing the
safety risks of open houses without
having several family members pre-
sent, this is generally a good book
for home sellers.

But realty agents need not worry.
It doesn't provide enough details for
do-it-yourselfers to succeed.

Chapter topics include So, You've
Decided to Sell It Yourself; What
Should You Do When a Realtor
Knocks at Your Door?; Alternatives
to Realtors; MLS — The Ultimate
Home-Selling Tool; Assembling Your
Team of Experts; Pricing; Establish-
ing a Budget and Deadlines; Curb
Appeal — Your Home's First Im-
pression; Marketing Your Home Like
a Pro; Does Your Home Have an Exit
on the Information Superhighway?;
Showing Your Home Properly; Turn-
ing a Prospect into a Sale; Handling
Objections; Safety Issues; What's

With All This Paperwork?; The Clos-
ing. Will Your Deal Fall Apart? For
Sale by Owner Horror Stories, and
The Most Common FSBO Questions.

While Roberts imparts valuable

information to home sellers, I sus-
pect his true goal is to convince them
to list with professional agents.

But many profitable insights can
be gleaned from his experiences as

a top realty salesman.

Home sellers and realty agents
will benefit from this valuable book.

On my scale of one to 10, this
well-written book rates a 10.

Open Sunday 2-4:30



401 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont
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Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

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2229 6TH STREET • BERKELEY

Contractor's Special! This 1904 classic Victorian cottage
awaits the right craftsman to bring back her original
elegance. Three bedroom, 1 bath, workshop, large lot
with many possibilities. Offered at \$185,000. "As Is"

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This beautiful cabin style home is located in the desirable
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and hill views. Can easily be converted back to two bedrooms.
Short distance to schools, shopping and parks. To be sold "as is"

- 1,191 sq. ft.
- One Bedroom
- Two Baths
- Family room
- New Wall to Wall Carpeting
- New Roof
- Extensive Decking/Patio area
- Canyon Views
- Quiet/private Setting
- Remodeled Bathroom
- New Central heating system

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765 CEDAR, BERKELEY
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Architect, Michael Oleo
created a spacious storefront
studio for the owner & a
unique upstairs apt & deck.
State of the art live/work w/a
lovely serene garden - and close to
it all! Ruth Frassetto, ext. 147
\$450,000



260 CALDECOTT LANE #160, OAKLAND
New listing! Beautiful 1BD/1BA "Golden Gate"
condominium. Pool, gym, security, parking, and
superb location! Tricia Swift, ext. 140 \$190,000

BERKELEY

1586 LE ROY, 4+BR/2BA Beautiful Tudor in historic
wonderful North Berkeley neighborhood. Beautifully
proportioned rooms including a formal dining room & FDR.
Wonderful interior with double doors to deck
and yard. Beautiful views! Garage! Walk to UC.
Susie Schevill, ext. 144 \$595,000

1077 PARK HILLS, OPEN SUN 2-4. Inviting
3+BD/2.5BA with Tilden View. Deal shaky. Seller
encouraging back-up offers.
Leslie Avant, ext. 122 \$479,000

**900 CRAMMONT, Mediterranean charm, space and
views!** Wonderful floor plan: 3BD/2BA; formal dining
room; eat-in kitchen; 4th bedroom or in-law potential;
very convenient location.
Anne Van Dyke, ext. 134 \$379,000 "As Is"

2231 WOOLSEY STREET. Stylish remodel of 2 bedroom
house. New kitchen & bath, updated throughout.
Convenient location. Near BART & shops.
Leslie Easterday ext. 134, \$349,000

LAND, 720 EUCLID AVE. This splendid parcel provides a large level building pad, easy access and Bay Views! A
great location for swift transportation. Bebe McRae, ext. 145



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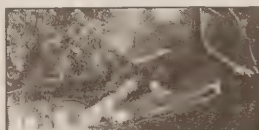


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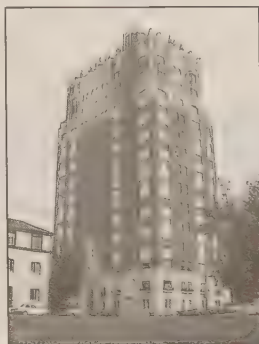
Berkeley Prairie Style Beauty.....\$679,000
In the heart of the Claremont District on a peaceful, level tree-canopied
street. Sun bathed with verdant level garden through French doors. 4BR,
1.5BA, formal dining & sun room. HELEN NICHOLAS ext. 238



Circa 1930.....\$649,000
Story book home on 1/2 acre, nestled among the Oaks. This circa 1930,
4BR, 3BA home features cathedral ceilings, slate roof, two fireplaces, pool,
sports court and complete privacy. DORIS TABOLOFF ext. 244



Potential Galore! Motivated seller!.....\$549,000
Monterey Colonial 3BR, 2.5BA very spacious rooms, hardwood floors,
some upgrades. Excellent floor plan. Get home before the holidays.
ANGELA LAWSON ext. 224



Lake Merritt Landmark.....\$375,000
Luxury 2BR, 1BA condo with panoramic views of Oakland/Piedmont
Hills, Lake Merritt, the bay and San Francisco Peninsula.
TOM ERWIN ext. 230



So Much Space! Such A View!.....\$449,000
Lincoln Heights overlooking SF & Bay. 2 family rooms, 3 fireplaces,
4BR, 4BA, well cared for home, extended families must see!
JAN NEFF ext. 243



Best Buy In Montclair - NEW PRICE.....\$349,000
1960's downslope 5BR, 2 full baths, 2 car garage, hardwood floors,
workshop, sunny deck, updated kitchen. LOIS C. JOHNSON ext. 226



New Listing - Montclair.....\$289,000
Sunny and private. 3BR, den, 2BA, 90's kitchen, level rear yard area,
hardwood. Needs retaining wall. HAL CASTLE ext. 220



Just Listed!.....\$239,000
Sunny Laurel bungalow. 2BR, 1BA with a garden cottage. Hardwood
floors, freshly painted and a fireplace in the living room. JEFF HILGERT ext. 214

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Brown Shingle Charming in Oakland. Pretty as a picture on a great lot, 3BR,
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Call for address. MEL COPLAND ext. 255

Great P.U.D. Project ready to go.....\$85,000
4 lots starting \$85K to \$125K, level plus upslope building pad
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MEL COPLAND ext. 255

Need A Lot For Your Home.....\$54,000
Two more good home sites priced to sell. Possible subdivision.
Both canyon views. MEL COPLAND ext. 255



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What is a "CMA" and when do I need one?

"CMA" is an abbreviation real estate agents use for a Comparative Market Analysis. A CMA gives an estimated sale price for a property given current market conditions. It's prepared by a real estate agent and it usually comes in report form. Most residential real estate agents don't charge a fee for preparing a CMA. An agent needs to walk through the property in question before preparing a CMA. Unless the home is enormous, the agent inspection part of the CMA shouldn't take long, nor does the home have to show like a model home.

However, property condition does affect price. So if you plan to do work on the property, let the agent know.

After the agent previews the property, he or she researches the Multiple Listing Service for information about similar properties in the area that have recently sold. In order to arrive at a current price estimate, an agent should analyze information about listings that have sold and closed, those that are sold but haven't yet closed (the pending sales), active listings and expired listings.

Pending and sold listings give the most reliable indicator of current

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer
sdfsgsg

market price. Active listings are a gauge of the current competition in the marketplace. Expired listings are properties that were listed for sale but didn't sell. Usually expired listings didn't sell because they were priced too high for the market.

The agent then compares the property with listings found in the MLS search and by so doing arrives at a probable selling price. Keep in mind that the price derived from a CMA is somewhat subjective. Also a CMA is not an appraisal. You need to hire a licensed appraiser to complete an appraisal.

Sellers should have a CMA done before listing their home for sale. Sellers who don't have a real estate

agent often ask several agents to complete CMAs. This gives the seller an opportunity to meet different agents and to see how they work.

You may find that you want a CMA even if you aren't planning to sell. For instance, before embarking on a major renovation you might want to know how much you can spend without over-improving for the neighborhood.

The agent who sold you the property should be happy to prepare a CMA for you if he or she is still active in the local housing market. If not, ask an acquaintance whose opinion you trust to recommend an agent.

Buyers should ask for a CMA on a property they are considering buying, particularly if they are new to the area and haven't had the opportunity to see many listings.

Regardless of whether you are a buyer or a seller, the agent who prepares your CMA should work actively in the area where the property is located. The Internet has made it possible for virtually anyone to access comparable sales in-

formation.

However, this information could be inadequate without firsthand knowledge of the comparable properties and the local marketplace.

For example, property upgrades usually have a positive effect on sale price. But if the upgrades are inferior in quality or design they can lower rather than increase the price.

Suppose the information on a sold listing shows a remodeled kitchen. Without having seen the property, it's difficult to know how the remodeling effected the price.

Don't be surprised if a CMA gives a price range rather than a set price. You're more likely to see this in markets where there is variation in terms of property size, age, architectural style and condition.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available in book stores or from Chronicle Books: 800-722-6657.

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2 bd, 1 ba, 1 car att. garage, partial view, dining area, comp. shingle roof, rear fenced yard, #99029176
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ALBANY

GREAT LOCATION / GREAT VALUE.....\$200,000
2 bdrm 1 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, attached garage, maintenance yard, #99019914 Pat Prendiville (510) 758-0314

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LOVELY ONE LEVEL HOME.....\$219,000
2 bdrm 1 ba, spacious landscaped grounds, 1 car garage, access, Clear Pest rpt., newer roof, concrete patio #99030374
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NEW LISTING/BAY VIEW.....\$249,000
3+ Bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car att. garage, Approx 1416 Sq. Ft. all hardwood floors, great area. Clear Termite Report, large formal dining room, 1 story home. #99037054
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BAY VIEW/BEAUTIFUL GARDEN.....\$255,000
3+ Bdrm., 1 bath, 1 car att. garage, large yard, hardwood dining area, basement, updated kitchen. #99025400
Ed Messner (510) 799-3527

SUPER HOME IN THE VIEW W/A VIEW!.....\$265,000
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BERKELEY

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SAN FRANCISCO

We would like to express our ongoing appreciation to our East Bay clients and the real estate community for their buyer and seller referrals to our San Francisco office.

Our lovely Victorian office building is located in the heart of Cow Hollow - near Pacific Heights and the Marina District - and serves the entire City of San Francisco. We look forward to hearing from you!

Jim Hedges
Manager/Realtor
(415) 921-0113 S.F. office
(510) 287-9001 East Bay office
Jim lives in Berkeley and has been serving the East Bay & SF for 18 years

Prudential California Realty

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JUST LISTED! OPEN SUNDAY • NOV. 14 • 2-4:30

14000 Broadway Terrace
Absolutely gorgeous new construction with panoramic Bay and S.F. city views. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, kitchen/family room with view terraces, 10 ft. high ceilings and more.

Offered at \$885,000

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Open Sunday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

30 Kenilworth, Kensington, 5BR \$499,000

2640 Pine Ave, Richmond, 2BR \$118,000

2371 West St., Berkeley \$249,000

1615 Rose, Berkeley 2+2, \$339,000

1634 California \$285,000

By Appointment

Gateway Commons ----- \$170,000-\$195,000
Live/Work Lofts on Emeryville/Oakland Border.
1400-1700Sqft. 1st Time Home Buyers!

LOTS...LAND...BUS OPS...RES. INCOME

North Berkeley Restaurant, New List! --- \$395,000
Great Opportunity, corner location!

Eight Units...North Campus ----- \$850,000

Four units...North Oakland ----- \$249,000
2 classic apartments and 2 loft storefronts

KENSINGTON
Spectacular Views! ----- \$499,000

BERKELEY
Beautiful Craftsman ----- \$295,000
2br/1bath, light and bright
Starter Home ----- \$249,000
2 br, private patio and spa

Just Listed ----- \$339,000
2br/2 bath classic craftsman

RICHMOND
North & East ----- \$118,000
2 br/ 1 bath deck and secluded yard

VISIT OUR NEW COLLEGE AVENUE OFFICE AND SHARE A LITTLE HOLIDAY SPIRIT
2983 College Avenue
across from the Elmwood Theater

WEEKLY HOME SALES

Compiled by TitleTech

1920 Woolsey St - \$200,000

EL CERRITO

1353 Arlington Bl - \$800,000
6816 Blake St - \$325,000
7237 Blake St - \$250,000
7249 Blake St - \$250,000
611 Bonnie Dr - \$400,000
560 Colusa Av - \$325,000
7115 Manila Av - \$279,500
765 Pomona Av - \$360,000
1306 Scott St - \$245,000
6607 Stockton Av - \$225,000

EL SOBRANTE

891 Appian Knoll Ct - \$168,000
953 Kelvin Rd - \$135,000
1256 Kilcrease Ct - \$192,000
5455 San Pablo Dam Rd - \$86,000

EMERYVILLE

4 Anchor Dr #F336 - \$125,000
1 Captain Dr #D264 - \$95,000
1500 Park Av #303 - \$289,000

KENSINGTON

46 Ardmore Rd - \$440,000

OAKLAND

2043 102nd Av - \$81,500
1916 103rd Av - \$108,000
2415 108th Av - \$137,500
2530 14th Av - \$150,000
2442 23rd Av #B - \$170,000
1437 25th Av #A - \$160,000
2626 35th Av - \$105,000
385 38th St - \$150,500
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419 43rd St - \$310,000
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1028 62nd St - \$228,000
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3155 64th Av - \$200,000
2136 66th Av - \$158,000
2701 68th Av - \$194,000
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1118 89th Av - \$99,000

On the average

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 30
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$115,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$938,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$325,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$341,733

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$225,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$270,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$247,500

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 16
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$135,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$575,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$260,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$304,656

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$225,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$800,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$279,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$345,950

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$86,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$192,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$135,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$145,250

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$95,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$289,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$125,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$169,667

KENSINGTON

2250 8th Av - \$268,000
303 Adams St #110 - \$88,000
398 Adams St #301 - \$101,500
5949 Alhambra Av - \$300,000
3659 Alhambra Av - \$285,000
4352 Alhambra Av - \$201,000
889 Alma Pl - \$260,000
835 Alvarado Rd - \$830,000
89 Alvarado Rd - \$524,500
1950 Auseon Av - \$125,000
759 Barbara Rd - \$240,000
565 Bellevue Av #2207 - \$365,000

KENSINGTON

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KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$440,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$440,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$140,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 124
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$75,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$980,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$206,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$254,081

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$262,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$679,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$659,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$533,333

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 50
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$82,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$420,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$149,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$165,770

SAN FRANCISCO

TOTAL SALES: 34
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$110,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$440,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$200,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$225,706

SUNNYVALE

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$157,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$284,500
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$220,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$223,583

565 Bellevue Av #2501 - \$245,000
565 Bellevue Av #2601 - \$890,000
4329 Bermuda Av - \$307,000
2833 Best Av - \$155,000
6405 Brann St - \$275,000
6435 Brann St - \$102,000
3074 Brookfield Av - \$250,000
260 Caldecott Ln #223 - \$290,000
200 Caldecott Ln #44 - \$190,000
3765 Canon Av - \$1



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It's A Grand Opening Celebration!

You're invited to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Estates at Southbrook in Fairfield and Victoria in Petaluma. Seeno Homes is proud to present these two new communities featuring elegantly appointed models and floorplans to suit today's families. Estates at Southbrook offers homes up to 3,300 sq. ft. from the mid \$200,000's. Victoria features homes up to 2,500 sq. ft. in a picturesque setting on Petaluma's historic west side, priced from the low \$300,000's. Hurry in today!

SEENO HOMES

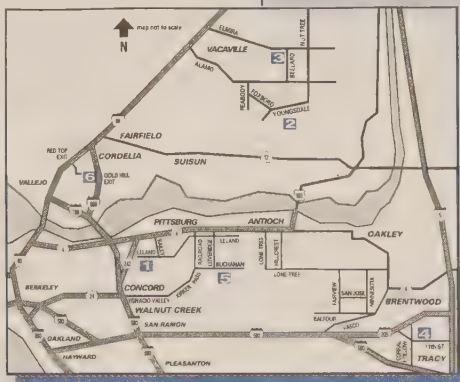
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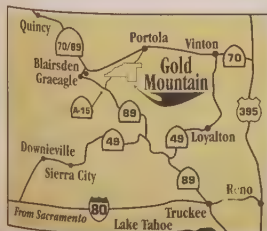


- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Monterra II Summit Collection
Pittsburg
1,815 - 3,243 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(925) 709-1037</p> <p>2 Brighton at Westgate
Vacaville
1,432 - 1,843 sq. ft.
From the upper \$190,000's
(707) 448-6243</p> <p>3 Village Hills
Vacaville
1,800 - 3,312 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(707) 454-0162</p> <p>4 The Reserve
Tracy
1,785 - 3,159 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(209) 839-9952</p> <p>5 Highlands Ranch
Pittsburg
1,734 - 3,549 sq. ft.
From the low \$200,000's
(925) 439-9070</p> | <p>6 Estates at Southbrook
Fairfield
1,983 - 3,312 sq. ft.
From the mid \$200,000's
(707) 864-0225</p> <p>Victoria
Petaluma
1,776 - 2,562 sq. ft.
From the low \$300,000's
(707) 781-6822</p> <p>Also Visit:
Sierra Highlands
West Reno
1,659-2,017 sq. ft.
From the upper \$160,000's
(775) 747-3515</p> <p>Upland Ranch
Fernley, Nevada
1,243 - 2,072 sq. ft.
From the low \$100,000's
(775) 575-4949</p> |
|--|---|

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Beautiful sights, beautiful sites.*

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One of the top selling properties in Northern California. Homesites of an acre or more with mountain and river views starting at only **\$79,900 to \$129,900 and up**. See for yourself why people nationwide are choosing Gold Mountain, the Ultimate Backyard.



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Wilson

FROM PAGE B1

gory of historic public buildings in the Bay Area which almost always have been preserved or restored by the city governments they house when they are in need of repairs or updating. The restoration of San Francisco's magnificent City Hall, which was recently re-dedicated to great fanfare, is a good case in point.

San Francisco's City Hall is a superb monument of the Beaux Arts style. It was the cornerstone of a master plan for the Civic Center that was first conceived by renowned Chicago architect Daniel Burnham in 1905. Burnham had been the supervising architect for the great World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

This exposition, which drew 28 million people, including such leading Bay Area architects as Bernard Maybeck and Willis Polk, was the inspiration for a movement of Beaux Arts-style city planning that was called the City Beautiful Movement. Daniel Burnham was the movement's leader and was invited to visit San Francisco and develop a master plan for a new Civic Center and other public spaces.

Burnham's master plan was never fully realized, but after the 1906 earthquake, his design for the Civic Center was used as the basis for an architectural competition to design the main buildings around it. The city hall building was designed in 1912 by the San Francisco firm of John Bakewell and Arthur Brown. It was completed in 1915, in time for San Francisco's own Panama Pacific Exposition that was held in the Marina District that year.

When the old city hall building sustained modest damage in the 1989 Loma Prieta Quake, the city's leaders never for a moment considered tearing it down and replacing it with a brand new structure — the outcry would have been too great. So whatever "edifice complex" some of San

Francisco's civic leaders may have secretly harbored toward the historic city hall was sublimated into a massive renovation project instead.

The 1915 city hall was restored, earthquake retrofitted, and updated over a period of several years during Mayor Willie Brown's first term. The original gold-covered dome, which had noticeably faded, was re-gilded. Greater security and handicapped access was added to the restored building. The entire project cost several hundred million dollars, (the final figure is still not exactly clear) and it ran way over the original budget. But no one argues that the finished result is truly spectacular.

Over in Berkeley, a smaller adaptive re-use project was carried out in recent years on that city's historic city hall building at 2134 Martin Luther King Junior Way.

This Beaux Arts-style landmark was designed in 1908, also by Bakewell and Brown. It closely resembles a Renaissance town hall in provincial France, with its massive engaged Doric colonnade and a tall spire originally meant to support large clock faces.

In the 1980s, the city planners of Berkeley determined that the city government offices should be moved to the larger, more modern Farm Credit Bureau building on Milvia Street, which was built in 1938 in Streamlined Moderne style. The old city hall building was then renovated for adaptive re-use as the headquarters of the Berkeley Unified School District.

The City Council does still hold its public meetings in the old Council Chambers of the historic city hall.

A few miles to the south, the city of Alameda has done a wonderful job of restoring and updating its marvelous old city hall building. Alameda's City Hall was designed in 1894 by the local architectural firm of Percy and Hamilton, and was dedicated in 1896.

This is one of the oldest city hall buildings still standing in the Bay Area. It was built in the Romanesque Revival style, a popular form of Medieval Revival style for public buildings across America in the late Victorian

Era.

Alameda's version of this style is a dignified, red brick and sandstone structure that has Romanesque arches across the facade, and a wide, sweeping central staircase.

It originally had a central clock tower, which was slightly damaged in the 1906 earthquake, and then removed when the building was remodeled by the Works Progress Administration in 1937.

In the early 1990s, Alameda's city government decided that their historic city hall needed to be earthquake retrofitted after sustaining moderate damage in the Loma Prieta quake. So, a fund of \$10 million was raised for the project. About \$6.5 million of this total came from a California State Historic Grant, and around \$3.5 million came from a voter-approved city bond measure, according to Vivian Day, Building Services Manager Alameda.

The respected architectural firm The Ratcliffs Architects was chosen to draw up the plans for this project. Their plans included seismic strengthening of the old masonry structure, improving the handicapped access to the building, modernizing the computer hookups for all the city offices, upgrading the electrical and plumbing systems, and building a new foundation for a possible future reconstruction of the old clock tower.

The actual work for this renovation project took eighteen months in all, and it was begun in March of 1996. Unlike San Francisco's city hall restoration, the work on Alameda's old city hall was completed on time and within the original planned budget. The restored building was re-dedicated in a public ceremony on September 21, 1997. Also, currently there is a grass roots campaign underway to raise enough money from primarily private sources to rebuild the old clock tower.

The press release from the Alameda City Government that was put out at the time of the old city hall's re-dedication sums up perfectly the

value of such restoration projects on historic public buildings.

"Not only is this restoration significant to the City of Alameda, but — in this day of high-technology and high-density, it stands out as an icon in the ongoing effort for the preservation of important historical California architecture. Indeed, a valuable piece of California history has been preserved for future generations to admire and enjoy."

Those of us who value our irreplaceable cultural and architectural heritage here in the Bay Area can say amen to that.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor and ar-

chitectural historian who works at Prudential California Realty's Albany office.

He can be reached at 510-271-1111. Visit him at www.bayarearealty.com.

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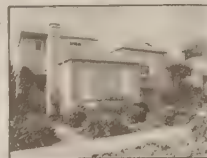
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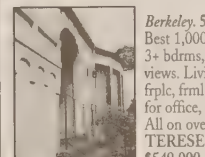
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Lack of written sales contract might force tenant out

By Robert J. Bruss
BUSINESS MEDIA SERVICES

Dear Bob: I live in a house that I have lived in for seven years ago from an owner. I had a verbal understanding with the owner that I would have an option to buy the house. He decided to sell. So I paid for maintenance for the seven

In early 1999, the owner told me he wanted to sell and that he would give me first option to buy. His attorney wrote me a letter with the price and terms.

We finally came to agreement, and he asked that I arrange for the sale closing, which I did.

But two days before the scheduled closing, after I had signed all my documents and paid the down

payment with a cashier's check, the owner's attorney faxed a letter stating the seller was canceling.

Apparently, the seller got a better offer, even though I performed all maintenance and was never late with my rent for seven years.

I filed a specific performance lawsuit, asking the court to compel the owner to comply with our agreement. But his attorney contends

there was no written agreement signed by both of us, so the statute of frauds prevents specific performance.

What should I do to enforce the sales agreement? — MR. R.M.

Dear Mr. R.M.: I hope you hired an experienced real estate attorney who recorded a "lis pendens" against the home's title to effectively prevent the seller from selling or refinanc-

ing. To comply with the statute of frauds, there must be a written agreement to sell signed by the party being sued (the seller).

If you don't have that, your argument in court should probably be that your partial performance of maintaining the house for seven years in reliance on the oral option takes the case out of the statute of

frauds written requirement.

I'm sure your attorney has researched and found the precedent cases so holding. Next time, get everything in writing.

Robert J. Bruss is a real estate attorney and syndicated columnist based in Burlingame. You may write to him at 251 Park Road, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Sales

PAGE B8

2399 Pacifica Ct #23 - \$165,000
115 Chanslor Av - \$110,000
123 Chanslor Av - \$140,000
Cindy Ct - \$280,000
Commodore Dr - \$235,000
Cypress Av - \$191,000
144 East Ct #1 - \$122,000
144 Elmwood Rd - \$176,000
145 Fallon Av - \$180,000
145 Fran Wy - \$210,000
145 Garvin Av - \$150,000
145 Gaynor Av - \$137,000
145 Gaynor Av - \$117,500
145 Harbor View Dr - \$369,000
145 Highgate Dr - \$268,000
145 Jana Vista Rd - \$195,000
145 Joan Vista St #29 - \$82,000
145 La Colina Rd - \$140,000
145 Lambert Rd - \$148,000
145 Lowell Av - \$270,000
145 Lowell Av - \$175,000
145 MacArthur Dr - \$126,000
145 Maricopa Av - \$190,000
145 Marina Wy - \$90,000
145 Monterey St - \$105,000
145 Nevil Av - \$172,500
145 North Arlington Bl - \$183,000
145 North Rancho Pl - \$420,000
145 Potrero Av - \$120,500
145 Roosevelt Av - \$125,000
145 San Mateo St - \$185,000
145 Sargent Av - \$170,500
145 Shane Dr - \$192,000
145 Sonoma St - \$201,500
145 South 18th St - \$159,000
145 South 35th St - \$98,500
145 South 9th St - \$114,000
145 Stoneglenn - \$125,000

LEANDRO

145 141st Av - \$215,000
145 151st Av - \$165,000
145 162nd Av - \$165,000
145 163rd Av - \$144,000
145 167th Av - \$121,500
145 167th Av - \$195,000
145 Alice Av - \$200,000
145 Andover St - \$236,500
145 Ardmore Dr - \$430,000
145 Argonne St - \$278,000
145 Av - \$145,000
145 Bridge Rd - \$275,000
145 Caliente Dr - \$150,000
145 Carpenter St #319 - \$114,500
145 Daily Ct - \$440,000
145 Doolittle Dr - \$137,500
145 Evergreen Av - \$279,000
145 Gramercy Dr - \$244,000
145 Heron Dr #118 - \$308,000
145 Joaquin Av - \$180,000
145 Kenyon Av - \$275,000
145 Lee Av - \$359,000
145 Linnell Av - \$201,000
145 Mitchell Av - \$330,000
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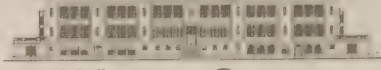
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\$309,000 3873 BROWN AVE. Upper Laurel 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, large front yard, hardwood floors, kitchen and 2-car garage. Bev & George Williams 522-7173

\$379,000 2710 HARRISON ST. Fourplex! Spacious charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath units with formal dining rooms, built-in hardwood floors & window seats. 1 detached floor plans in all units. Good condition and location! Steve Chesney 814-4816

\$495,000 2270 HIGH ST. Residential income! Five buildings - Two fourplexes, 3 houses and 4 garages extra parking on site. Call now for details! Terry Lee 814-4840

\$265,000 1048 KEY ROUTE 92. Charming single level McGowan 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 car garage, new carpet and new hardwood floors and updated bath. New furnace and water heater. Peggie Trail 814-4826

\$199,000 14752 PEPERIDGE. Single level 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 car garage. Great opportunity. Call now to be sold. Shirley McWilliam 814-4825

\$339,000 15189 DISCOVERY ROAD. Rare spacious single level home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, and dining area. The entry and kitchen plus 5 burner gas cook top. Beautiful back yard and 2-car attached garage. Elaine Milin 814-4821

\$1,295,000 2200 COUNTY CENTER DR. Investment Property! Eight large professional suites - 1 level. Located off 101 and Steele Lane. Minutes from Coddington Plaza (Mall). Excellent return. Margaret Lomba 510-814-4829

Santa Rosa

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES OPEN SUNDAY

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2933 Southwood Dr Wendy Sprague, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	3 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$695,000
2947 Gibbons Walt, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4710	384/2ba	2-4	\$550,000
2950 Gibbons Bey & George Williams, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 522-7173	384/2.5ba	1:30-5	\$517,000
1622 Clinton 484/2ba	2-4:30	\$480,000	Gold Coast
Pete Caponio, Alameda Realty (510) 522-8585			
452-454 Santa Clara 4 UNITS	84-8a	2-5	\$450,000
Ronda Beckley, Beckley Real Estate, (510) 769-1906			
1728 Clinton Teri Kervin, Kervin & Assoc. (650) 472-1500	484/2ba	2-4:30	\$450,000
1230 Versailles By owner, Sylvia (925) 743-4115	384/2ba	12-4	\$430,000
138 Inverness Patrick Ng, Kane & Assoc., (510) 736-7651	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$429,000
1907 Alameda Ave Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4817	384/2.5ba	2-4	\$429,000
305 Ratty Rd Lillian Silva, Kane & Associates (510) 865-8564	384/2.5ba	2-4	\$425,000
2012 Rosefield Loop Marino Village Primary Ivan Loring, Pacific Union (415) 345-2588	384/2.5ba	1-5	\$419,000
171 Purcell Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4711	384/2ba	2-4	\$410,000
516 Central Ave Walt Gahert, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1129	384/2ba	2-4	\$399,000
1545 Santa Clara Barbara & Bill, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4714	384/2ba	2-4	\$395,000
306 McDonnell Rd. Homes Link Team, (510) 748-5300	384/2.5ba	2-4	\$394,500
48 Britt Judy, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4711	384/2ba	2-4	\$389,000
2207 Lincoln Alan Groch, Kane & Assoc., (510) 521-0980	584/2ba	2-4	\$350,000
759 Taylor Ave Emmanuel, Mac Investments (510) 610-1441	4 - 84/2ba	12-4	\$349,000
302 Ironwood Mark, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4714	384/2.5ba	2-4	\$319,000
3124 La Cresta Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4711	284/2.5ba	2-4	\$289,000
1129 Post St Steve C, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4818	284/2ba	2-4	\$269,000
3312 Willis Ln Tom, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4841	384/1.5ba	2-4	\$229,500
1701 St. Charles Betty Sewell, Kane & Assoc., (510) 522-1175	284/1ba	2-4	\$225,000

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
905 Ventura Ave. Bill McDowell (510) 524-9888 x30, Berkeley Hills Realty	3 - 84/2ba	2-4	\$499,000
714 Ramona Kathie Borg (510) 527-2700 x34, Marvin Gardens	284/1ba	2-4:30	\$365,000

ANTIOCH

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2229 6th St Vasdekis/Marchand, Prudential (510) 524-2526	384-8a	2-4	\$185,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
150 Brett Marie Rd. Madara Madaryk by Hopp & Liberman Hold & Jerry Long (510) 825-4211, Coldwell Banker	584/4ba	2-5	\$2,000,000
1120 Euclid Ave Karen Stern, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	4 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$1,150,000
486 Vassar Ave Jackie Wagner, Prudential (510) 524-2326	4 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$995,000
2960 Benvenue 1874 San Juan Alan Sabina Team, (510) 428-0900	4 - 84/2ba	2-4	\$995,000
367 Vassar Y. Van-Daer, Prudential (510) 339-9290	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$925,000
1112 Hillview Chris Ebers-Hardie (510) 524-9888 x22, Berkeley Hills Realty	384/2ba	2-4	\$435,000
2415 Prince St. Dell Ott, Coldwell Banker (510) 333-4700	284/1ba	2-4:30	\$375,000
2718 Ninth St Lew/Weir condo Karen Stern, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	184/1ba	2-4:30	\$329,000
2216 Curtis St. Kathryn Stein (510) 848-1950 x230, Thornwall Properties	3 - 84-8a	2-4	\$-

CASTRO VALLEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1687 Manster Ct Barbara Burgard, Adams, Adams, & Morris (510) 537-4314	484/2.5ba	1-4	\$994,000

DUBLIN

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
7275 Thomas Ct Barbara Burgard, Adams, Adams, & Morris (510) 537-4314	384/2ba	1-4	\$284,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1101 Arlington Blvd. Jennifer Robinson, 925-253-4601, Coldwell Banker	6 84/3.5-8a	1-4	\$2,580,000
319 Ramona Ave. Jean Auka (510) 524-9888 x16, Berkeley Hills Realty	384/1.5ba	2-4	\$369,000
523 Ashbury Rayne Palmer, Prudential (510) 525-5143	284-8a	2-4	\$238,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1629 Richmond St. Alice McLeish (510) 527-2700 x35, Marvin Gardens	284/2ba	2-4:30	\$332,000
930 Cerrito Jane Allen (510) 524-9888 x23, Berkeley Hills Realty	284/1ba	2-4	\$229,000

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
833 Coventry Rd Roy Bedford, RE/MAX East Bay (510) 325-8497	484/2ba	1-4	\$949,000
118 Kenyon Ave Gelia Conces, Millstem & Assoc., (510) 527-4211	3 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$410,000
293 Grizzly Peak P. Hewitt, Prudential (510) 526-5143	384-8a	2-4	\$384,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5618 La Salle Ave Piedmont side Montclair Debra Dryden, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x241	84-8a	2-5	\$2,750,000
6219 Virgo Rd Sherry Benninger, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x241	5 - 84/4ba	2-4:30	\$1,195,000
33 Sheridan Rd Shelia Gallagher, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x241	4 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$959,000
5132 Cochran Ave John Karmay, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	84/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$959,000
14000 Broadway Ter Kathleen Callahan, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$885,000
1720 Manzanita Dr Judy Cam, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	384/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$879,000
1102 Grand View Dr Claremont Hills Joanna Good, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$799,000
1045 Aquarius Way Estadillo Estates Nahid Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes (510) 531-1670	3 - 84/2ba	1-4:30	\$749,000
7940 Hansom Dr Seaview Heights Charlotte Clayburgh, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-2648	484/2ba	2-4:30	\$749,000
6363 Contra Costa Ruth Lockhart, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	5 - 84/3ba	2-4:30	\$725,000
36 The Plaza Dr Helen Nicholas, La Salle Properties (510) 339-8900	484/1.5ba	2-4:30	\$679,000
1830 Grandview Martina Shi, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-8606	484/1.5ba	2-4:30	\$650,000
120 Calvert Court Shelia Gallagher, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	3 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$629,000
7100 Westmoorland Dr. By owner, Zack (510) 549-1001	684/4.5ba	2-4	\$590,000
6818 Channing Crosser Erik Johnson, Prudential (510) 339-9290	384/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$585,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5955 Johnson Dr Michelle Winchester, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	484-4ba	2-4:30	\$575,000
2211 Pelham Pl Honey Chew, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$575,000
40 Marsh Pl Rudy Ng, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4788	384/3ba	2-5	\$575,000
5945 Ocean View Terry Kukla, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4788	4 - 84/3ba	2-4:30	\$550,000
320 Creighton Wy Sherry Benninger, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	84-8a	2-4:30	\$548,000
6766 Pinhaven Rd Emily Lane, Prudential (510) 339-9290	384/3ba	2-4:30	\$599,000
5785 Chelton Dr Monclair Ten Carlsie, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$489,000
3405 Holywood M. Erickson, Prudential (510) 428-0900	3 - 84-8a	2-4:30	\$489,000
6941 Armour Dr D.J. Hammond, Prudential (510) 869-4219	484/3ba	1-4	\$458,000
6749 Hansom Dr Grynsell/Randall, Prudential (510) 339-9290	484/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$450,000
5637 Masonic Ave Suzanne Yarnamoto, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	2 - 84/2ba	2-4:30	\$435,000
5399 Belgrave David Eckert, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	384/1ba	2-4:30	\$429,000
4335 Leach Craig Stone, Prudential (510) 339-9290	584/2ba	2-4:30	\$395,000
104 Echo Michael Harding, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-8598	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$395,000
3516 Monterey Blvd Richard Keeling, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	3 - 84/1ba	2-4:30	\$389,000
4850 Balfour Ave Crosier Highlands Charlotte Clayburgh, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-8598	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$379,000
1610 Leimert Karen Lum, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	2 - 84/1ba	2-4:30	\$369,000
845 Alma Place CROCKER HIGHLANDS Deane Milburn (510) 869-4683/949-3711 Prudential	384/1.5ba	2-4	\$350,000
437 52nd St Rudy Ng, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$348,000
6672 Banning Mylicia Wang, Prudential (510) 339-9290	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$339,000
2012 Melvin Rd Jethrey Himes, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$309,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1528 Hempel St Judy Rankin, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400 x 241	84-8a	2-4:30	\$399,000
4484 Mattis Court Nanane Watson, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84/2ba	2-4:30	\$299,950
2532 12th Ave Victor Ferro, La Salle Properties (510) 832-4239	2 - 84/3ba	2-4:30	\$299,000
4112 Norton Ave Diane E. McCann, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$289,500
7025 Sayre Dr Hal Castle, La Salle Properties, (510) 339-9778	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$289,000
4624 Kaphan Ave Kader Darral, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	284/1ba	2-5	\$273,000
3881 Lyman Rd Vicky Faulk, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	84-8a	1-5	\$267,000
315 Hampshire Pl Rockledge Cherie Hunt, Prudential (510) 433-9737	284/1ba	2-4	\$267,000
315 Hampshire Pl Cherie Hunt, Prudential (510) 337-8670	284-8a	2-4:30	\$267,000
5601 Merriewood Dr Ed Marshall, Prudential (510) 339-9290	184/2ba	2-4:30	\$259,000
3801 Brown Laurel Wendy Gardner, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	284/1ba	2-4:30	\$259,000
3878 Whittle Ave Martha Star, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-8598	384/2ba	2-4:30	\$259,000
4112 Patterson SPACIOUS GARDEN/LOVELY VIEWS Yoda Schwartz (510) 273-9331/949-3711 Prudential	384/1.5ba	2-4:30	\$259,000
3507 Midway Howard Converse, Prudential (510) 339-9290	484/1ba	2-4:30	\$249,000
3060 Madeline St Jeff Hileget, La Salle Properties, (510) 893-7545	284/1ba	2-4:30	\$239,000
2968 Morgan Ave Rachel Baller, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	1 - 84/1ba	2-4:30	\$229,000
4638 Park Ave Sat-Lani Oy-Sun, Rachel Baller, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	284/1.5ba	2-4:30	\$219,000
820 Nineteenth St Victor Ratto, Coldwell Banker (510) 339-4700	384/4ba	2-4:30	\$219,000
1095 99th St #7 Anno Forest, Prudential (510) 845-0200	84-8a	2-4:30	\$218,000
5326 Trask St By Owner (510) 436-5163; (510) 421-2399	2 84/1 Ba.	1-4	\$195,500
3421 Adair Ct Arnold Mueller, Montclair Better Homes (510) 530-6099	284/1ba	2-4:30	\$199,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3240 Peralta Jackie Wagner, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
8801 Thermal St Rokana, RE/MAX East Bay (510) 832-4239	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
2424 Potter St Economides, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
9145 55th St Denyse Bap, (510) 527-9111	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
3514 Delmont Ave Millsmont Lee Jacobson, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
1268 58th St Cynthia Johnson, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
2031 East 26th Street Art Realty, (510) 850-1158	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
150 Pearl St #103 B. Allen Thompson, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
801 Northvale Rd Willy Wan, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1129	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
62 Inverline Terr H. Chew, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
132 Hils de Ave Nancy Rothman (510) 283-2159	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
401 Willow Ave Anjan Pettit Turley, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
505 S. Ave Rosalee Marshall, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
1155 Willow Nancy Leifert, The Grubb Co., (510) 339-0400	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5515 Fresno RICHMOND ANNE Todd Hobbs (510) 527-9111/949-3711	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
725 Collier Dr Estadillo Estates Carol Crosby, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000
2112 Bancroft John Wesley, Prudential (510) 339-9290	84-8a	2-4:30	\$199,000

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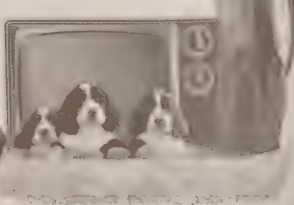
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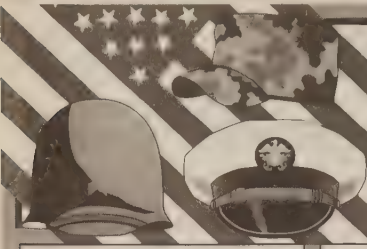
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A Salute to America's Veterans



Juan M. Taitague
U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran
Member Post 151 American Legion
We are proud of you for
serving our country.
Love, your wife and children



Marie Matheney Shadden
U.S. Air Force, Lt. Col. Ret.
Served Aug. '74-Aug. '92
All the family is so proud of you.
May God bless and
keep you in his care.



Micheal E. White, STCS
U.S. Navy
Served Sept. 54-Nov. 78
I am proud of you as always.
Love you, Jerrie



Norman M. Frucht
U.S. Army, 25th Infantry Div.
E4 Specialist
Served 1969-1971
You're the best!!



Michael G. Nuñez
U.S. Army
Pvt. 1st Class, 76th Division
Our hero, we love you
Your wife Marguerite, children,
grandchildren & great-grandchildren



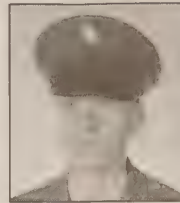
CPO Joel Fischer, USN
Colleen Fischer USN-Ret.
U.S. Navy, currently
serving 1983—present
Thanks!
Love, Mom & Dad



Matthew R. Greer
U.S. Navy 3rd Class
Serving 1998—Present
You make us proud every day!
Love, Mom & Dad Phillippi



Gustav J. Achterberg
Staff Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps
Served 1975-1995
We are proud of you!
With love, Mom, Dad and Zen



Chris A. Swenson
U.S. Army
Served 1968-1971
To our Vietnam vet. Proud of you;
Love you! Mom & Family



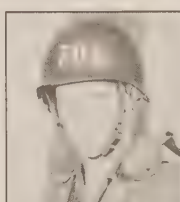
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Gilbert J. Hernandez
U.S. Air Force
Served 1970-1975
We miss you, Gibby.
Love, Mom, Dad, Gabe and Greg



John Newton Cashman
Captain, U.S. Army
Served 1952-1972
Recipient of U.S. Army Good
Conduct Medal from a grateful
state and nation.



Ronald "Craig" Metcalfe
Pvt., U.S. Army, 101st Airborne
Served 1967-1968
So proud, so much loved.
Your Mom



Troy M. Campbell
OS2, U.S. Navy, 1988—Present
Currently aboard the
USS John Paul Jones
We are proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



Bryan Rosburg
Airman, U.S. Air Force
1999—Present
We love you and are proud of you
Love, Eliza, Mom & Dad



Jeff Menasco
Capt., U.S. Air Force
Pilot
Congratulations.
We are proud of you!
The Menasco Family



Arnold Murillo
U.S. Marine Corps
Served 1971-1969
So proud of you for all you
do for all veterans.
Love, Lee



Ken H. Sargent
CW4, U.S. Army
Serving 1977—present
We couldn't be prouder of you.
Love, Mom, Jim, Kerren & Cera



C. Richard "Chief" Davidson
CPO USNR, Retired
Served on the USS Taylor DD46, 1941-46; North
Atlantic; Casablanca Invasion; South Pacific
Guadalcanal; Solomon Islands Campaign
Commander of VFW Post 2680,
Placerville, CA 1990-91
We're proud of our Dad! Susan, Diane & Wendy



Ray E. Hogue
U.S. Army
Served 1953-1961
My hero and special Dad
Love, your daughter, Debbie



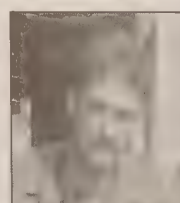
Vincent S. Westenhouse
U.S. Army
World War II
In loving memory,
Judy, Janice and Joyce



Gladys I. Westenhouse
Women's Army Corps
World War II
In loving memory,
Judy, Janice and Joyce



Dorothy "Doody" Locke
T/4, Women's Army Corps
Served 1943-1945
The days and nights are lonely
without you.
I love you — Joe



Richard A. Keane
SP4 U.S. Army
Vietnam 1968-1970
With love, pride & respect.
Linda



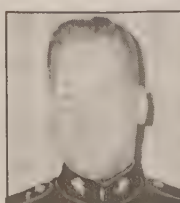
M. Ray Hardee
3rd Class Petty Officer, U.S. Navy
Serving 1997-2001
We are always proud of you
Love, Kathy & Dad



Sean M. McCullough
AMH2, U.S. Navy
Serving 1989—Present
We are very proud of you.
Love, Mom & Dad



Norman D. Powell
Specialist 4, U.S. Army
Served 1987-1993
We love you, Pop!
Cindy, Savannah & Kiel



Andrew F. Carson
Cpl., U.S. Marine Corps
Served 1987-1991
Your family is proud of you for serving
in Desert Storm & Desert Shield.



Mark S. Anderson
Lt. Cmdr, U.S. Navy
Serving 1988—Present
I am always proud of you!
Love, Dad



Walter E. Landaker, Jr.
U.S. Air Force Lt. Col.
Serving 1939-1977
The Lord continues to
watch over you!
Love, Mike & Susan

Job Network

The largest employment classified section in the greater East Bay Area

www.hotcoco.com/jobs

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
leading food bkr in Livermore. Exp. 3-5 yrs. exp. in food service. Exp. computer skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint. Strong interpersonal skills a must. Prof. polish. Must be a team player. Pls. submit resume to: P.O. Box 5081, Livermore, CA 94550. Attn: Debbie Jones

Administrative Asst.

Immediate FT position for qualified person. Type 60-55 WPM. Strong PC skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Paradox database, Microsoft Projects and Internet. Excellent oral/written skills. Requires high school diploma & 3 yrs. general office experience. Fax resume to Human Resource Department (925) 935-0413

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

World Savings, a leader in the financial industry with \$40 billion in assets, has an exciting opportunity in its Marketing Department, conveniently located in BART & Lake Merritt.

You will support Production Manager in the areas of: vendor follow-up, Printshop/production, processing, samples, processing, and special projects. Also, proofreading of all marketing material through the creative/production process is essential, including manuscript copy (with assistance from Copywriters), production mechanicals & blueprints. Will serve as liaison with Administrative Database group for production tables & maintenance change control requests.

Must have 3-5 years' administrative experience in a Sales, Marketing, or Ad Agency environment and 3 years' proofreading experience, intermediate working knowledge of Windows environment, excellent proofreading, organization, accuracy, and attention to detail.

World has a competitive compensation & benefits package & offers a variety of internal & external training opportunities if you are interested, please send your resume & salary history to: World Savings, 1001 Harrison St., Oakland, CA 94612, Fax (510) 446-3072, e-mail: WorldSavings@aol.com

WORLD SAVINGS®

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.
Award winning East Bay Area financial services company. Organized, detail oriented person, excellent command of English/computer skills. Knowledge of office procedures. Fax resume to: World Savings, 1001 Harrison St., Oakland, CA 94612, Fax (510) 446-3072, e-mail: WorldSavings@aol.com

CLASSIFIED QUICK & Easy!

1 Personals

250 Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE

Program Assistant II

Assembly course binders. Process registrations. Assist in course monitoring. Organize catering. Av. room reservations and set up. Process all payments and deposits. Maintain course files. Order supplies. Candidates must have strong writing and communication skills. Experience with preparation of courses, seminars, and/or large meetings. Knowledge of Windows 98 software programs. Occasional travel to offsite courses. Valid CCL and auto with minimum liability insurance.

To apply, send cover letter/resume to: UC Berkeley, Employment Services, Job #98-237-202A, 70 University Hall, #3542, Berkeley, CA 94720-3542 or e-mail: apply@ucb.edu. Website: http://www.berkeley.edu/employment.htm. EEO/AAE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. / Receptionist

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OOCL (USA) Inc., a leader in the global transportation industry, has an immediate opening in our Pleasanton office for an Administrative Assistant.

The successful candidate will have at least 2 years admin exp. and excellent PC skills including MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Problem solving skills, attention to detail and organization skills are a must.

OOCL offers an excellent compensation package if you are interested in joining our team, please submit your resume and salary requirements to:

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FEATURED HOME OF THE WEEK

Big vision results in big investment in the community

It takes vision, guts, perseverance and a lot of investors who believe in you to accomplish what Greg Woehrlé has done in creating La

Salle Estates, a collection of seven high-end custom homes.

It all began back in 1996 when Greg purchased a parcel of land

which the Kaiser Family was saving for their son to develop. After capturing the Kaiser parcel Greg then purchased an adjoining parcel that

had been land locked due to steep frontage.

After a year and some months of working with engineers, architects and the city of Oakland, his subdivision map for six lots was finally approved.

Greg Woehrlé grew up in Piedmont and like many Piedmonters thought this section of La Salle Ave. was in Piedmont.

Undaunted by the fact it wasn't and convinced that this particular area had most of the same amenities, he was determined to build new homes of authentic traditional ar-

chitecture representative of Piedmont homes and unsurpassed by any other new homes being built.

The location was unique in that it was a very established, prestigious neighborhood, very convenient to major freeways, shopping, etc. and offered commanding views of San Francisco, The Bridges and The Bay.

Woehrlé will tell you, it takes a lot of experienced, high energy professionals to make it all happen. People such as Tim Snipes and Richard Cotham, the contracted builders, Tina Voight, the designer and interior decorator, the highly creative

and sometimes unreliable craftsmen and a Realtor willing to invest untold time to help make the vision a reality.

Is it all worth it? The answer is a resounding yes. The home at 5618 La Salle Ave. is up immediately by a contractor from Palo Alto getting ready to move looking for their dream home.

This home is offered at \$1,100,000. For more information, contact Barbara Dryden, The Grubb Co., 1400 14th St., Suite 208, Oakland, CA 94612, 415-444-0400 Ext. 208. Or visit our website at www.Grubbco.com.



5618 LA SALLE AVE. is a massive 8,000 square feet of luxury.

THE GRUBB CO

WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

531-7000

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 P.M.



13651 CAMPUS DRIVE.....\$769,000
Price Reduced! Stunning Views! Ten-year old contemp. with 4BD/3BA, huge family rm, 3-car gar, expansive decks. Chris Christensen ext. 242



4046 WATERHOUSE ROAD.....\$569,000
New Listing! 4+BD/2.5BA 1929 English fab remod. Sensational MBR w/dl shower & whirlpool tub, gorgeous kit., lg LR w/vaulted bmd ceiling & incredible FP, stained & leaded glass, random plank hw flrs. Don Dunning 482-2256

956 GRIZZLY PEAK.....\$479,000
Panoramic Bay Views! New deck, refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted. Clear pest control report, mature English garden, new dishwasher and more! 3BD/2BA. Michael Childress ext. 215



385 JAYNE AVENUE #307.....\$85,000
Immaculate and upgraded! Exceptional 1 bedroom unit. New appliances and corian counters in kitchen, new carpet throughout, lots of closets, excellent floor plan, pleasant view, Complex has pool. Stan Hammond ext. 346

MAJOR INCOME PRODUCER!.....\$450,000
Five-plex plus house, \$57K GSI. Includes pest control clearance on house. Built 10 years ago. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

FIVE PLEX.....\$350,000
Mix of studios & 1BD's. Formerly a late style Victorian single family home, converted to units. Easy to return. Need minor repairs, PCR available. Great locale. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

MARVELOUS MONTCLAIR HIDEAWAY.....\$325,000
3+BD/2.5BA. A lush wooded view from decks, patios and all living spaces. Lovely details, double car garage, newer roof. Carol Robbiano ext. 292

YOU GOTTA ACT FAST!.....\$94,500
Small starter home, 2BD/1BR, LR, DR, breakfast room. Located above MacArthur Blvd. near Foothill Square. Needs some exterior TLC. Frank Hennefer 654-6461



2615 HAVERHILL.....\$425,000
Marvelous 22 one-level home in exquisite setting. High ceilings, deco touches, views from almost every room. A Must See! Carol Robbiano ext. 292



2954 MADELINE.....\$219,000
1st Open! Charming 2 bedroom in Laurel. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Fireplace, deck, yard, garage. Many upgrades. Nancy Novick ext. 254

385 JAYNE AVENUE #307.....\$85,000
Immaculate and upgraded! Exceptional 1 bedroom unit. New appliances and corian counters in kitchen, new carpet throughout, lots of closets, excellent floor plan, pleasant view, Complex has pool. Stan Hammond ext. 346



SPANISH GEM IN LAUREL.....\$255,000
Desirable original features include recessed built-ins, coved ceilings & stone fireplace. Deep level yard w/grape arbor. 2+ bedrooms. Noll Davis ext. 263

QUALITY FROM THE PAST!.....\$185,000
Renovated 1910 Craftsman, 2-Story with living area on 2nd level. 2BD/1BA, LR, DR, remodeled kitchen up. Full partially finished basement down, nice fenced rear yard. Off street parking. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

JUST LISTED! PRICED TO SELL!.....\$165,000
6-Year old townhouse. About 1100 sq. ft. on 2-levels. 2BD/2.5BA, LR w/pt. DR, laundry in unit, 2 master suites, bsmt, pvt yard, security gate entrance. Low monthly dues of \$142. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

ADORABLE ONE BEDROOM HOME.....\$142,000
Room for expansion, use your creative vision. Hardwood in living, dining and bedroom in this sweet starter near shops, schools and transportation. Carol Robbiano ext. 292

LAND

SNOOZE YOU LOSE SF BAY VIEW ESTATE.....\$395,000
Surrounded w/Private! Nearly 1-ac and 1/2. High in Berkeley/Oakland hills. SF Bay and Contra Costa views. Area of expensive newly constructed homes. Utilities accessible. May be possible to subdivide. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

FOUR LOTS-PIEDMONT PINES.....\$285,000
Package incl 4-lots on secluded yet convenient White Ct., just off Shepherd Canyon in Oakland's upscale Piedmont Pines. All utilities at street. Look at: www.wellsandbennett.com. Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME.....\$95,000
Gentle Downslope, bay view lot on nearly 1-ac w/SF and Bay views. Loc Oakland Hills near golf course and regional parkland. Danville type setting. Utilities accessible, Incl complete approved building plans. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND

• LAKE TAHOE 1-800-858-2463 Vacation Rentals/Sales

• WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

<http://www.wellsandbennett.com>

PROFESSIONALISM & PROGRESS SINCE 1924 - A FAMILY TRADITION.



Prudential California Realty

* Indicates Homes Being Held Open Sunday

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

By Appointment.....\$895,000
3BD/3BA architectural masterpiece. Framed view of SF/GG. George Millirons 510-339-9290

Firehouse Loft.....\$218,000
Charming loft in old Oakland's Firehouse #7, price reduced! Parking included. Ceiling is retrofitted. Ana & Pascal Forest 510-845-0200

Maxwell Park Chamer.....\$179,000
Wonderful Bungalow in quiet neighborhood. 2BD/2BA office with balcony and eat-in kitchen. Lovely for gardeners! Marius Duvalle 510-845-0200

Victorian Duplex.....\$159,000
Spacious 2BD + 1BA, blocks away from downtown, close to transportation. Lilia A. Marquez 510-433-7248

Best Price in Area!.....\$158,000
Only 10 years old. 3BD/2BA has new carpet, paint inside, appliances, detached garage. Easy to buy! Richard Matus 510-834-2010

Opportunity Knocks!.....\$149,900
3BD/1BA Traditional home has full dining room, large updated kitchen, eat-in area, low maintenance yard, garage, basement and more! Alilek Vasdekis 510-524-2526

Architectural Gem!.....\$749,000
Beautiful 4BD/2.5BA Spanish Mediterranean in central Piedmont! Charming and updated. Walk to schools/transportation. Rosalie Marshall 510-428-0900

*** Open Sunday!.....\$585,000**
6818 Charing Cross. 3+BD/2.5BA. New home. Gourmet kitchen. Hardwood floors. Master suite with Jacuzzi and more! Erik Johnson 510-339-9290

*** Spectacular View!.....\$469,000**
Open Sun. 2-4:30. 3105 Holyrood. Well-maintained 3+BD/2BA. Contemporary. SF and bay views. Martine Erickson 510-644-5482, 510-428-0900

*** Open Sunday!.....\$450,000**
7649 Hanson Dr. Tastefully refurbished 4BD/2+BA with super bay views. Grynbal/Randall 510-339-9290

Tranquil Retreat!.....\$424,000
New listing! Serene, elegant 3BD/2.5BA home on 5 acre lot nestled in the trees, less than 5 min. to Montclair Village. Mary Canavan 510-527-2012, 510-849-3711

*** Open Sunday!.....\$395,000**
4335 Leach. Huge 5BD/2BA. Big living room and family room. Fresh paint. Seller will clear pest. Craig Shane 510-339-9290

Grand Lake Home.....\$375,000
Big 4BD/2.5 brown shingle has hardwood floors, formal dining room with fireplace, master suite, original charm intact. Richard Matus 510-834-2010

*** Open Sunday!.....\$338,000**
6672 Banning Dr. Great 3BD/2BA. Starter. Private deck. Hardwood floors. Walk to the Village. Myrtice Wong 510-339-9290

*** Open Sunday!.....\$299,950**
4464 Mattis Court. 3BD/2BA. Lovely Contemporary with decks and Jacuzzi. Price reduced! Seller motivated. Nanine Watson 510-339-9290

Westmoorland Villa \$875,000
New construction. 3BD/3BA. Plan inclusions - 4,000 sq.ft. of style. N. Platford 510-845-0200

Westmoorland Villa \$875,000
New construction. 3BD/3BA. Plan inclusions - 4,000 sq.ft. of style. N. Platford 510-845-0200

BENICULI VALLEY

Lovely Victorian!.....\$1,100,000

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SPORTS

JV

Friday, November 12, 1999

Section C

Volleyball Albany beats Piedmont to enter ACCAL playoffs undefeated [C2]

Arts Buena Vista Social Club members play to impress [C3]

Gauchos in search of perfection

El Cerrito football could go 10-0 in regular season, but NCS title is the goal

By Craig Lazzeretti

El Cerrito High School's football program has enjoyed its share of accomplishments the past few years.

The Gauchos won their first league championship in 12 years in 1996, put together an undefeated regular season (8-0-2) in 1997 and landed a berth in the North Coast Section 2A East Bay championship game last year.

After Friday's 50-6 drubbing of long-time rival Kennedy, El Cerrito now finds itself one win away from another milestone — a perfect regular season. If the Gauchos beat Richmond next Friday, they will wrap up their first 10-0 season in Frank Milo's 17-year tenure as the school's head coach.

In fact, Milo said Friday that he can't recall coaching a team to a 10-0 season in his 30 years as a head football coach.

The one other accomplishment that has eluded Milo and the Gauchos is an NCS championship. Kennedy cost El Cerrito that honor in the 1984 3A title game but has been unable to compete with its rival in recent years.

Friday was no different as Gauchos quarterback Joe McBride completed 8 of 13 passes for 133 yards and three touchdowns to spearhead El Cerrito (9-0, 7-0 ACCAL).

Kennedy (1-7, 0-7) will try to avoid finishing last in the ACCAL when it visits Alameda next Friday.

"In the last three games, we know we're the better team," McBride said. "It's a matter of coming out and proving we're a better team and getting other players playing time and getting ready for the playoffs."

David Rose and Okoro Onyike each scored two touchdowns as El Cerrito

El Cerrito coach Frank Milo said that he can't recall coaching a team to a 10-0 season in his 30 years as a head football coach.

clinched at least a share of the ACCAL crown, giving it three titles in the past four years. The Gauchos shared the title in 1997 with St. Mary's.

But another league championship and perfect regular season are not what Milo and the Gauchos want most. Their sights are set squarely on the NCS playoffs. "It's great (going 10-0), but the thing I want to win is the (NCS) championship."

If El Cerrito wins next week, it can make a strong argument for receiving the No. 1 seed in the playoffs.

"We want to go into the seeding meeting saying we're 10-0 and the record speaks for itself," Milo said.

Jarud Overall provided Kennedy's only highlight Friday with a 2-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. Overall set up the score with a 45-yard option pass to Donnie Featherstone.

Kennedy lineman Kyle Stephenson was taken off the field in an ambulance after colliding with a teammate late in the first half, but Eagles coach Matty Felder said the injury was not serious. Stephenson was briefly knocked unconscious.



EL CERRITO QUARTERBACK JOE MCBRIDE leads the Gauchos into their final game for a shot at perfection, while Albany is trying to obtain its first winning season in years.

Cougars having best football season in years

Bennett scores twice in Albany's 14-8 win over Richmond; football team is hoping for a winning record

By Ethan Sprague

Billy Bennett and the Albany Cougars were elated. Not only had they beaten a pretty good Richmond team 14-8 at the Oilers own homecoming, but they had already reached their best season in years with one game left to play.

"I feel great, I feel wonderful," Bennett shouted after the game. The Albany running back had scored two touchdowns and was part of the tackling team

that created a safety to account for all of Albany's points.

The win gave the Cougars a victory and pushed their record to 4-4-1 overall, 3-4-1 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

The loss may be the end of the road for a talented Richmond (5-4, 4-3 ACCAL) team, whose remaining game is a road contest at undefeated El Cerrito.

Meanwhile Albany has been having its best season in years and a lot of Cougar players are coming through for

the team.

Yaw Yiadom has done an admirable job of stepping in as quarterback for the Cougars. Yiadom stays in the pocket, doesn't run with the ball unless it is necessary, tosses the ball before allowing himself to get sacked, and throws to different receivers to keep opponents on their toes.

Keenan Moore has had a great year as middle linebacker and caught the two

See COUGARS, Page C2



BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL'S Emily Friedman, right, returns a Foothill serve with teammates Hannah Lawler, left, and Naomi Coffman, back, moving in if needed in EBAL volleyball action last week. Berkeley won in four games.

Berkeley setting up for playoffs

By Mike McGreehan

When it comes to girls high school volleyball, few will question the superiority of Amador Valley in the East Bay Athletic League. This year, the Dons have been EBAL volleyball's New York Yankees, and nobody is going to knock them off their perch.

Overall, though, the EBAL is a pretty strong league. And Berkeley can make a good argument for calling itself "the best of the rest." The Yellowjackets, at 9-4 through Tuesday, were tied with San Ramon Valley for the EBAL's second-best record. A place in next week's North Coast Section playoffs is a strong probability.

"I pretty much think we're in," said Yellowjackets coach Justin Caraway. "We had some tough wins and played some good matches. Finishing second in the league should get us in."

Berkeley (17-10 overall) had just one match to go in its EBAL season, a home contest against bottom-feeder California High on Wednesday. The Yellowjackets were almost assured a win in that match.

A day earlier, Berkeley lost to Amador Valley — no surprise there — but stretched the Dons to five sets, 15-3, 17-15, 11-15, 8-15, 15-9.

Berkeley enjoyed some outstanding performances in the losing effort. Lizzi Akana led the Yellowjackets with 21 kills and added 22 digs for good measure. Hannah Lawler led the team in digs with

"I pretty much think we're in. We had some tough wins and played some good matches. Finishing second in the league should get us in."

Berkeley coach Justin Caraway

24. Lawler also recorded 11 kills to go along with three blocks, two assists and two aces.

Senior setter Tracy Zedeck did her job well by giving out 47 assists. She also had 16 digs and three blocks. Adrienne Cohn added 11 digs, 10 kills and five blocks.

"I think the first time we played Amador we played a very good first game, but then our defense and ball control fell apart," said Caraway. "We're playing much better volleyball now."

Berkeley has had to undergo a major adjustment in the past two weeks since middle blocker Desiree Guillard-Young tore ligaments in her ankle and was lost for the season. Others had to step up. And they have.

See VOLLEYBALL, Page C2



BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL'S Hannah Lawler (3) and Lizzi Akana (7) seem amazed that a Foothill spike got past them in EBAL action last week. Lawler, Akana and their teammates had reason to celebrate later when their team won.

Volleyball

FROM PAGE C1

Akana, the junior outside hitter, leads the team in kills. Lawler, also a junior, is the starting opposite who seems to be reaching a peak at just the right time.

"She's getting a lot more swings now," Caraway says of Lawler, a third-year varsity player. "She's an excellent server and has pretty good ball control."

Cohn, a senior, has held her own at middle blocker in the absence of Guillard-Young.

"She's pretty effectively offensively," Caraway says of Cohn. "She

gets a lot of kills."

Sophomore defensive specialist Emily Friedman is Caraway's best defender. Friedman also serves well and has good ball control.

Senior outside hitter Naomi Coffman is also a strong defender. Her best asset is probably her range, as she gets to balls most others would miss.

As setter, Zedeck is like the quarterback of the team.

"As good as anybody is, they wouldn't be as good without her," Caraway says of Zedeck. "She is a very good high school setter and leads the team in digs and assists. She does a very good job of delivering the ball."

Berkeley lost its first match with-

out Guillard-Young to Monte Vista, but rebounded to win its next match — a 15-3, 11-15, 15-9, 15-4 triumph over Foothill last Thursday.

Cohn had 12 kills and two blocks while Lawler and Akana stayed busy with 17 digs apiece. Freshman Vanessa Williams made an impressive varsity debut with three blocks and two kills.

Berkeley will compete in Division 1 in the NCS playoffs, which promises to be hotly contested once again.

I see us as a 4, 5 or 6 seed," says Caraway. "O'Dowd and Deer Valley should be up at the top. I just don't want to have to face those teams right at the start."

Cougars

FROM PAGE C1

passes which set up the first of the Cougar touchdowns in the Richmond game. Moore also intercepted a pass by Richmond's Christopher Dixon and ran for 10 yards before getting tackled.

Dustin Hughes and Karl Moore have done a terrific job on the line. Karl Moore has sacked the quarterback at least once in every game, achieving four sacks in the Kennedy homecoming game.

Yaw and Jonathan Ball have provided great coverage on receivers and were able to break up a number of passes in both the Kennedy and Richmond games.

The confidence on the team has

increased and it showed in the upset of Richmond, a team once destined for the NCS playoffs.

The game last week started out well for the Oilers, who opened by recovering an onside kick. But they were unable to capitalize on that opportunity or any others in the first half as the Cougars held them to just 82 yards. Bennett, whose cousin is Oilers star running back Lionel Arnold, ran untouched for a 6-yard score with 2:37 left in the second quarter for a 6-0 lead.

Richmond, relying on conservative play-calling because of quarterback Dixon's bruised collarbone, was unable to run out the remaining time in the period and punted from its own 14 with 12 seconds left.

The snap was high and punter Levi Tuuuu was tackled in the end zone by Bennett and Keenan Moore

for the safety, giving the Cougars a 8-0 lead.

The penalty-filled second half was uneventful until Dixon was sacked on third-and-six from his 10-yard line. Another high snap led to a 10-yard punt, giving Albany excellent field position. Two plays later Bennett ran 7 yards up the middle for Albany's final score.

The Oilers looked in disarray as several players openly yelled at each other. Mike Galuega was ejected for hitting an Albany player.

A last-second 11-yard touchdown pass from Dixon to Tanzil allowed the Oilers to narrowly avoid the shutout at home. Dixon's successful pass to William Dyrdahl on the two-point conversion made the final score 14-8.

Peter Mentor contributed to this story

SPORTS BRIEFS

Little League signups

Baseball registration for new players, boys and girls, 7 to 15 years of age for the North Oakland/Piedmont Oakland Little League will take place 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 13, at Piedmont Recreation Center, Montclair Recreation Center and the Chabot Elementary School baseball field. On Wednesday, November 10, registration will be held from 7pm to 9pm at Triple Play Batting Cages in Emeryville.

Returning NOLL/POLL players will receive registration packets by mail. No late registrations will be accepted, and no registrations will take place at tryouts. For additional information, call 510-665-6565 or log on to www.nollpoll.com.

Benefit dinner

The second annual Ed Block Courage Award Oakland Raiders' Recognition Dinner will take place Tuesday, Nov. 16 in the West Side Club at the Oakland Coliseum. Sponsorship levels are \$1,500, \$2,500,

\$5,000 and \$10,000. Proceeds will benefit the Fred Finch Youth Center in Oakland. For details, call event coordinator Laurie Earp at 532-7700.

Youth basketball

Berkeley Youth Alternatives is holding youth coed basketball leagues every Saturday. The pee-wee league is for players 6-7. A second league is open to players 8-10. Fees are \$12. Call 845-9010.

Soccer

Albany High School graduate Annie Izaki has been selected to the Vassar College soccer team. Izaki is a junior at Vassar.

Coaching

Bishop O'Dowd is searching for a head coach for junior varsity boys soccer. If interested call athletic director Mike Bowler at 577-9168.

St. Joseph-Notre Dame High School in Alameda is for a junior varsity softball coach. For details, call SJND director of athletics Gail Rodriguez at 814-7146.

Unstoppable Cougar roll over Highlanders

Albany stifles Piedmont to become the only undefeated team entering the league playoffs

By Scott Strain

PIEDMONT — As the Albany girls volleyball heads into the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League playoffs, it is quite apparent that the Cougars are at the top of their game and that if a team is going to defeat them, it had better be on an off night. A way-off night.

A week ago Thursday night, Albany placed an exclamation mark on another perfect ACCAL season, drubbing Piedmont 15-6, 15-12, 15-4. Now Albany heads for the ACCAL playoffs, which start tonight at Alameda High School. Alameda will play host to Piedmont at 7 p.m. and Albany will play Holy Names at 8:30.

The third-place match will be held on Saturday at Alameda at noon. The championship match will be at 2 p.m. The North Coast Section seeding meetings will take place on Sunday in Dublin.

On Thursday, there were two 11-0 teams involved and that motivated the Cougars.

"We knew we were going to have to come out and play well," senior Laura Jensen said. "We knew that there was going to be a lot of hype around this game — there is every year. They (Piedmont) are pretty much our toughest competition in league. They played really well."

"We know a lot of these Piedmont girls. We all play together in club volleyball. But it was not going to be difficult if we did our jobs."

If there was one aspect of the match that differentiated the two teams, it was on serves. The Cougars hardly ever made any service errors, the Highlanders made over 20 and with the talent up and down the Albany roster, a team can't give the Cougars that many chances.

"This was the most difficult match in league," Jensen said. "It wasn't the most scary — we went to 17-15

against Alameda in one match. We played really well. As far as if we play well, we're capable. But there is a have played poorly against tournament play I'm not run right through in the off), but if we stick to been playing lately, we ally well."

Said coach Kennel, "We really focused. Our really has always been how deal with the opponent, shot ourselves in the mistakes and what not, concern is how we play."

"There were some phan- lies there and we won all. We earned them. We're serving team and when all in, we're even."

Jensen had 18 kills. Alison West finished with

Jacket comeback fall short at Amador

Berkeley turnovers give Amador Valley a 21-point cushion in first half of EBAL football loss

By John Cardinale

PLEASANTON — Berkeley made a strong effort to come back from a 21-0 first-half deficit, but the Yellowjackets couldn't climb completely out of the hole against Amador Valley.

The Dons took advantage early on Berkeley turnovers on the way toward a 28-13 East Bay Athletic League victory over the visiting Yellowjackets.

The Yellowjackets, who have allowed 61 points over their past two games, fell to 2-3-1 in the EBAL and 2-5-1 overall. Amador Valley evened its EBAL record at 3-3 (5-4 overall).

Berkeley plays at California High Friday night at 7 against a team headed for the North Coast Section playoffs.

Amador Valley used two first-half turnovers by Berkeley to take a commanding 21-0 halftime lead.

Jackets respond

The Yellowjackets made a game of it in the second half. They reached the scoreboard on their first possession of the third quarter, covering 48 yards in seven plays, culminating in

a 4-yard touchdown run by Edwards.

Berkeley narrowed the gap further midway through the fourth quarter on a pretty 47-yard scoring strike from quarterback Jason Washington to Tyrone Williams, making it 21-13 with 4:12 remaining.

Williams had four receptions for 108 yards for the Yellowjackets, who amassed 255 yards for the game. Washington was 11-of-21 for 182 yards and two interceptions.

But the Yellowjackets didn't have enough gas to get all the way back.

"We're just not the type of team that can spot anyone that type of lead," said Berkeley coach Gary Weaver.

Berkeley was hurt on the opening kickoff when Rashad Edwards fumbled the ball and lost possession on its own 7-yard line.

Amador's Aaron Rhodes scored from 5 yards out two plays later for a 7-0 lead.

The Dons made it 14-0 on their next possession with an 82-yard drive that chewed up more than six minutes.

Amador quarterback Trevor Pierson was 3-of-4 for 29 yards on the march, including a 5-yard touchdown

"We're just not the type of team that can spot anyone that type of lead."

— Berkeley coach Gary Weaver

pass to Adam Chaney who caught all three passes drive to help build a 14-0

"We came out and played well the whole game, and that's the first time we've in a while," said Pierson of 12 for 130 yards and down for the game.

The Dons scored a touchdown just before the recovery recovering another

Pierson had the 73 yard march to Paul Baocchi that led to Berkeley's 2-yard ons left in the half. over on the next play found themselves

St. Mary's homecoming no place for a loss

Panthers' record falls to 5-4 on loss to Healdsburg

By Peter Mentor

This wasn't the way St. Mary's wanted to go through a bye week from the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League. It certainly didn't make for a happy homecoming either.

The Panthers gave up too much ground yardage in the first half, then their offense was unable to get anything going in the second half of a 23-14 loss to Healdsburg on Saturday.

St. Mary's overall record dropped to 5-4 with the final league game of the season Saturday against power-

ful De Anza. The Dons (8-1, 6-1 league) rolled over Piedmont 55-0 last week in Richmond.

St. Mary's is one game behind De Anza in the league standings, but the Dons' only loss to is league champion El Cerrito (9-0, 7-0), while the Panthers have already lost to El Cerrito and Piedmont.

St. Mary's gave up touchdown runs of 65 and 21 yards to Healdsburg's Mike Johnson in the first quarter. Johnson gained 186 of his 245 yards in the first half as the Greyhounds (7-2) surged to a 20-8 lead at intermission.

The Panthers scored on a 27-yard

screen pass from quarterback Smith to Trentin George.

"We were a little nervous the second half," St. Mary's Dan Shaughnessy said. "The half was good. The first half didn't do too many things."

St. Mary's defense allowed the second half, holding the Panthers' only second-half touchdowns to 120 yards and Three St. Mary's defense backfield to block a pass. Alexander picked up the and returned it 35 yards cutting the deficit to 14-8

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Arts

Gifted gents

BILL MANN

Media Notes

Elvis, oil and vinegar

Tabloid Insider Reveals All: Forget that huge proposed Warner-Lambert/American Home Products drug merger. For the past week's biggest business story after the government playing hardball with Microsoft was the owners of the National Enquirer ("Elvis: Still Dead") and the World Weekly News ("First to Inflict Damage on Major U.S. City") buying the company that publishes tabloid rivals The Globe and The National Examiner. A friend at the Enquirer e-mailed this funny note to me from Florida just as the news was being announced: "This takeover of the entire tabloid industry reminds me of the scene from 'The Godfather' when Michael wipes out all his enemies in one bold sweep. David Perker, our chairman, now assumes the role of capo di tutti capi — the godfather of all tabloids. Be good or tomorrow you sleep with the fish wrap." Enquirer insider reveals all: I've freelanced for years at the National Enquirer, aka "The French Foreign Legion of Journalism." Why? Simply put, it pays well. I actually once did an Enquirer story headlined "Your Salad Dressing Reveals Your Personality." For the past several years, I've written both the Enquirer and the Examiner's Fall TV Previews. I never did any two-headed chicken stories, however. After all, we all have standards. (In case you're wondering, "experts" say Thousand Island means you're outgoing, oil and vinegar, more reserved and introspective).

PR. exec Leslie Dart, whose clients include such celebs as Tom Cruise, had this to say about The Enquirer's takeover of the Globe properties: "I've always felt it was better to have all your enemies contained in one spot."

I worked as an editor at the Chronicle in the early 80s so I felt right at home at the Enquirer — S.F. comic Will Durst jokes "the Chronicle is the paper they make fun of at the National Enquirer." I was flown to the Enquirer's headquarters in Lantana, Fla., located across the tracks from toney West Palm Beach. I was surprised to learn that almost the entire Enquirer staff was British, exiles from Fleet Street.

On my first day there, one reporter with an East End accent put it in perspective: "In your country," said the Brit, "journalism is a profession. In mine, it's a trade." The Enquirer, whose motto was the Fleet Street-ish "why let the truth stand in the way of a good story?," was owned by former publisher Generoso Pope. When the man Enquirer staffers called "the Pope" died, daily tabloid the New York Post ran this page 1 headline the next day: "Enquirer publisher goes to meet with Elvis." Pope's family was not pleased.

Once I was contracted by the Enquirer to travel to a small town near Modesto to do a story on a policeman who claimed he was turned by a UFO — the policeman had filed for workman's comp for his supposedly alien-induced

turns. The policeman wouldn't tell me his story. So I called the editor in Florida with the bad news, and he said, "Offer him five grand. And tell him we pay \$100,000 for our Best UFO Story of the Year." The cop bit. I should mention that this particular editor became editor in chief of the August Times of London when it was taken over by tabloid czar Rupert Murdoch. And one of the most respected reporters in local TV the past 15 years, Greg Kiron, started at the Enquirer.

With the Murdoch-ization of TV news, the line between what once was considered tabloid news and what news has all but vanished, mainly on television. (Check a FOX or KGO newscast this week and you need proof). And that's why there's now one less place to get local information on George Clooney, faded diets, dying former TV and film stars, bad diets, Michael Jackson, Sharon Stone, and

The Enquirer is now the dowdier queen, if you will, of the tabs, and it looks almost respectable, if not a bit meretricious. Most people don't look down their noses at the

See MANN, Page C4

Buena Vista Social Club members play to impress

By Anita Amirrezvani

The sold-out crowd at the Paramount Theater in Oakland could hardly contain itself when Rubén González and Ibrahim Ferrer took the stage Saturday night.

Before they had even played or sung a note — in fact, before they even made it across the stage — both of the Buena Vista Social Club musicians received a thunderous standing ovation. Both looked gleeful, as if they could hardly believe the unexpected twists and turns of fate. And who could blame them? The release of the "Buena Vista Social Club" album and film, as well as their own solo albums, have catapulted the 80-year-old pianist and 72-year-old singer from obscurity to glory in just two years.

Organized by the San Francisco Jazz Festival, which deserves kudos for spotlighting more than just jazz in its annual lineup, the three-hour Paramount show gave fans just about everything they could have hoped to hear.

Both Rubén González y Su Grupo, which performed first, and Orquesta Ibrahim Ferrer, a 15-piece big band, played a marvelous mix of older music including sones (the precursor to salsa), boleros and faster guarachas mixed with other rhythms such as

CONCERT REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** Rubén González y Su Grupo and Orquesta Ibrahim Ferrer

■ **WHERE:** Paramount Theater, 19th and Broadway, Oakland

■ **WHEN:** 8 p.m., Feb. 19, and 7 p.m., Feb. 20

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$20-\$55

■ **CALL:** 762-BASS

danzones and afros. Their songs told tales of love, of wild parties, of heartbreak and of hot-bodied dancers, and even though the sound was sometimes out of balance, the show was a knockout.

The Paramount stage was bathed in red lights and decorated with palm trees, and all the performers except for Ry Cooder were nattily dressed in suits or coats and ties.

González was supported by a band consisting of timbales, congas, bongo, bass, trombone and two trumpets. Wearing a dark suit and a tie illustrated with a river of piano keys, his enthusiasm was infectious. He could be as gleeful as a kid, jumping up and down after an especially good solo, or turning around to grin at the audience while playing a one-handed trill. No one seemed more completely in his element than González in the spotlight.

As a piano player, González is especially lyrical. His supple fingers coax out the instrument's gentler, richer sounds, even as they leap all the way up and down the keys. The

keyboard is his playground: If it extended to infinity, he'd continue to play it (he illustrates this by popping up out of his seat and playing the air). At his core, González is a player with a lot of heart.

After several instrumental numbers, he was joined by the charming vocalist Omara Portuondo, who hit a high point with the tender Buena Vista Social Club bolero, "Veinte Años." Later, Jesus Aguaje Ramos, who performed the triple role of set leader, backup vocalist and trombone player, claimed the spotlight with a smoky trombone solo and showed his virtuosity by switching into "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" before moving back into the Cuban groove. Towards the close of the set, Portuondo got the audience clapping and on its feet with a rousing party song.

Wearing a red beret, a red jacket, a yellow shirt and a black-and-yellow tie, Ferrer took the stage after the intermission for his long-awaited visit to the Bay Area (he had to cancel his appearance at Davies Symphony Hall last year due to illness). Equally at home singing boleros and sones, he stuck mostly to songs from his album such as "Silencio," "Marieta" and "Aquellos Ojos Verdes." Ferrer's voice no longer has the crystalline clarity of his earlier days, but he knows how to inject feeling into a song like few other soneros.

This was especially true in the songs he sang for the encore, "Dos Gardenias," the famous ballad, and "Candela," the classic party tune, both from the "Buena Vista Social Club" album. Portuondo added her sparkling voice on these numbers, and the two danced together grace-

fully. When Ferrer launched into inflexibly danceable riffs like, "Look, mama, I'm burning up!" (in Spanish), it seemed like another fitting twist of fate that his life began at a social club dance (yes, he was actually born at one).

Ferrer's set unleashed the full power of a 15-piece big band: Four saxophones, two trumpets, two trombones and two guitars, plus González's rhythm section with Adolfo Pichardo on piano. Throughout the set, the band pumped out cascades of brassy sound, including a thrilling battle between the trombones. And at one point, Orlando "Cachaito" López played the side of his bass as though it were a drum, reminding us of the rich African roots of Cuban music.

We owe Cooder a great debt for bringing such superb musicians to the world's attention. However, those of us who have been listening to Cuban music for years could do without his twangy, rock-flavored guitar licks. You can't blame him for wanting to join the party he created, but his sound is superfluous. The solo he played Saturday with Ferrer's group would have been far more at home in a rock band than in the rhythmically demanding environment of son. Compared to guitarist Manolo Galbán, who kept firmly in the groove, Cooder sounded out-classed and out of place.

Let's hope that the current interest in Cuban music doesn't stop with the revival of these great musicians from the 1940s. After all, in the last fifty years, Cubans have been making some of the funkiest, happiest,

See GIFTED, Page C4

HOT SHEET!

■ Nancy Hanson, an author and counselor, will hold a workshop titled "From Pain to Joy in the Career Journey," at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13, at GAIA Bookstore in Berkeley. Cost \$20. Call 510-548-4172.

■ The Oakland Ballet will premier Alonzo King's "Pas de deux" at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12, and Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Paramount Theatre. A show has also been scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 14. Tickets \$12-\$39. Call 510-762-BASS.

■ The New Wave House Jacks, an a cappella group, will perform at Freight & Salvage in Berkeley on Saturday, Nov. 13. Tickets \$13.50 or \$14.50.

EVENTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MONTCLAIR'S Caren Armstrong, promoting her new album, "Independent Girl," performs at 8 p.m. at Freight & Salvage in Berkeley on Saturday, Nov. 20.

Oakland Museum

■ **Bicycle Film Festival,** Nov. 14, noon-5 p.m. A screening of classic bicycle films from the collection of Leon Dixon. Shown in conjunction with the current exhibition "Amazing Bikes: Two Centuries on Two Wheels." In the James Moore Theater. Free with museum admission.

■ **Family Workshop: Days of the Dead,** Nov. 14, 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Artist Yolanda Garfias Woo leads families in creating laughing and dancing skeletons, traditional Days of the Dead folk toys. Reservations required. \$6 general; \$4 children. Details: (510) 238-3818.

■ **"Joy of Art,"** Nov. 16, 11 a.m. A talk by ceramic artist and teacher Annabeth Rosen. Sponsored by the Oakland Museum of California Art Guild. In the Lecture Hall. \$12.

■ **"Water Quality and Water Supply for the Future,"** Nov. 18, 12:30 p.m. A lecture by William M. Elgas, manager of Laboratory Services for the East Bay Municipal Utility District. In the Lecture Hall. Free.

■ **Gallery Talks by Altmakers** Nov. 21, 2 p.m. Ruben Guzman Campos, Ernesto Hernandez Olmos, Mia Gonzalez and students from Oakland's Webster Academy discuss their altars in the exhibition "El Color de la Muerte: Altars and Offerings for the Days of the Dead." In the History Special Gallery. Free with museum admission.

■ **"All About Bats!"** Nov. 21, 1 p.m. Meet Bat Lady Patricia Winters and her live bats in the exhibition "California Underground." In the Natural Sciences Special Gallery. Free with museum admission.

Admission: \$6 general; \$4 seniors and students; free children age 5 and under; second Sundays are free to all. Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; first Friday of the month, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 1000 Oak St., Oakland. Details: 510-238-2200 or 888-OAK-MUSE.

Gershwin for Gershwin Lovers

The Julia Morgan Theater presents "Gershwin for Gershwin Lovers" on Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. in a performance featuring Steven Rumph, tenor; Ananda Carter, soprano; and Michelle Jordan, contralto.

Admission: \$15 to \$25. 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Details: 510-883-7023 or 510-84-JULIA.

It's Baroque; let's party

Musicians presents "Baroque Dance Party" on Nov. 21, 5 p.m. as Carol Teten teaches the Gavotte.

Admission: \$18 general; \$15 seniors and students. Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Details: 510-528-1685.

See EVENTS, Page C4

'Dressing Room' a witty show

STAFF REPORTS

"Dressing Room," written, produced and starred by Lucy Rimalower, is a witty one-woman musical that addresses challenges faced with transition to adulthood.

The show, which debuted Thursday, Nov. 11, in UC-Berkeley's Choral Performance Hall, ends Sunday, Nov. 14.

Presented by Barestage, an independent student theater group, "Dressing Room" is directed by Liza Cardinale.

The musical taps into the traditional challenges that are intertwined into the life of a college graduate. With the lens of a life in theater, Rimalower confronts perplexing dilemmas of career, creativity, loneliness and hope.

Music selections cover an array of talent and style. Some examples include compositions by Brian Rosen, Cy Coleman, Stephen Sondheim along with folk rock from Jason Robert Brown and Janice Ian.

Tickets are \$5. Show times are: Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 12 p.m., and Sunday at 7 p.m. For reservations and information, call 510-843-6635.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ACTRESS/WRITER LUCY RIMALOWER promises thrilling performances in her upcoming production, "Dressing Room." The one-woman comedy is presented by BareStage theater group.

'Insider' blows whistle on TV news

By Karen Hershenson

There is a moment in "The Insider" when a man realizes his actions are no longer just about him and his family. He has become an instrument of change, a contributor to history.

It is a profound moment, and director Michael Mann gives it its proper due by slowing things down, and letting the enormity sink in. It is this kind of skillful filmmaking, paired with a fascinating true story, that makes "The Insider" so powerful.

Like "All the President's Men," it is an intimate account of big-league journalism going after a red-hot story; the kind that so rocks the status quo that the establishment will do anything to stop it.

This is the kind of story that in-

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Insider"

■ **STARRING:** Al Pacino, Russell Crowe, Christopher Plummer

■ **RATING:** R

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 38 minutes

■ **WHEN:** Century Oakland 8, Jack London Cinema, Shattuck Cinemas in Berkeley, UA Emerybay 10

■ **GRADE:** A

vestigative journalists kill for, but fearful of being sued by the tobacco firms and their bottomless pockets, the television newsmagazine initially pulled the piece and ran an edited, softball version instead.

Journalistic integrity. Dirty dealings by big tobacco. The high personal cost of taking a stand. It's all laid out in this movie.

All the expected players are there, with Christopher Plummer doing a dead-on Mike Wallace, and Philip Baker Hall as Don Hewitt, the news

program's demanding executive producer. But it is the relationship between gonzo producer Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino) and this whistleblower (Russell Crowe) that gives the movie its soul.

These are two men caught in a hurricane, able to both confront and support each other like no one else. Each ultimately inspires the other to do what he knows he must.

Bergman has always prided himself on standing by his sources; he's the one in the trenches setting up stories for stars like Wallace. This is established in when he journeys, blindfolded, to some Middle Eastern outpost to nail down an interview with the head of the Hezbollah. When Wallace arrives a couple days later, he almost blows the whole thing by having a snit over chair placement.

That's why it tortures him to not be able to come through for Wigand and forces him to re-evaluate his commitment to glitzy television journalism — infotainment, he calls it.

Mann's style here veers toward cinema verite, a far cry from his day-glo

TV smash "Miami Vice." He worked with Pacino before, on "Heat," and helps the actor reign in his kinetic acting style, so that Bergman comes across as intelligent, dynamic and full of integrity. You understand why Wigand would trust him.

Crowe's performance is more nuanced, for his character is the one with everything at stake. Once he decides to move forward with his damning information, he is terrified, and it proves too much for his proper wife. The actor shifts from being nervous, to paranoid, to almost paralyzed as he realizes, in degrees, just what he's taking on.

The real Mike Wallace, along with Hewitt, has been grumbling to the press about how he's portrayed in the movie. And although both men are initially shown as bowing to network pressure, the full, unedited piece did eventually run.

As for Bergman, he now teaches at UC-Berkeley, probably a more fitting place for a former radical than some CBS office tower. As his character says in the movie, what got broken here couldn't be fixed.

Smart ‘Bone Collector’ a well-constructed thriller

By Karen Hershenson

“The Bone Collector” forces us to accept Angelina Jolie, with her superior cheekbones and satin-pillow lips, as a New York City beat cop.

Even with her hair pulled back and her mouth smothered in neutral lipstick, she seems more supermodel than public servant. But the actress finds her rhythm, and manages to disappear into her role as Amelia Donaghy, an officer with killer investigative instincts opting instead to hide behind a desk job. Something about a painful past.

Everything about this thriller works, from the performances to a smart screenplay based on Jeffery Deaver’s best seller about a serial killer who haunts the New York City infrastructure. Like classics of the genre, such as “Silence of the Lambs” or “Seven,” it explores not only a murderer’s twisted logic, but also the relationships that flourish in this pressure-cooker environment.

Jolie’s sparring partner is Denzel Washington, as gifted forensics expert Lincoln Rhyme, who became a quadriplegic in an on-the-job accident. His apartment is an ivory tower, fitted with all the high-tech gadgets

disability payments can buy. We’re talking a computer that does everything from adjust the bed to rummage through city archives, all by voice command. His main companion is an unflappable nurse, played by an uncharacteristically subdued Queen Latifah.

But Rhyme has lost his will to live, frustrated at having been reduced to “one finger, two shoulders and a brain,” and fearful that the next seizure will leave him in a vegetative state.

All that changes when Amelia is summoned to a crime scene and has the foresight to photograph key evidence with a disposable camera, plus the chutzpah to stop an oncoming train that may destroy it. The victims are a high-powered couple, and when Rhyme is enlisted, he recognizes her talent and insists she be the case’s forensics officer.

The killer is clever and elusive. He traps victims in his taxi cab, taking each to some forgotten corner of the city, where he murders them in bizarre ways, from scalding to being devoured by rats. He leaves pointed clues involving bits of bone, scraps of paper and turn-of-the-century bolts or shackles.

Director Phillip Noyce (“Patriot

Games,” “Dead Calm”) shows these grisly crime scenes, but doesn’t overdo it, and keeps the tension boiling, with the cops always just steps behind.

Several elements click to make the movie so compelling. Besides the riddle of the serial killer’s modus operandi, there is the fascinating world of forensic science, which Noyce details vividly. There’s an inept captain (Michael Rooker) threatened by Rhyme’s power, and an entertaining street-smart chemist (Luis Guzman).

Primary, though, is the mind meld between Rhyme and Amelia, who at first resists his mentoring, but eventually becomes his eyes and legs at the scene. Always first to enter, she must swallow her horror and pick up on clues that will send this psychopath to prison. As she becomes more skilled, he becomes more dependent on her, and a mutual admiration, laced with affection, grows.

Washington gives Rhyme a gentle sense of humor and dignity, allowing his intelligence to shine despite his physical limitations. And to be fair, Jolie (whose father is actor Jon Voight) does a passable Bronx (or is it Jersey?) accent, and downplays her innate charms. She had to

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** “The Bone Collector”

■ **STARRING:** Denzel Washington, Angelina Jolie, Queen Latifah

■ **RATING:** R (violence, gory crime scenes, language)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 58 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Century Oakland 8, Jack London Cinema, Shattuck Cinemas in Berkeley, UA Emery-bay 10

■ **GRADE:** B+

fight for this role and is probably hoping it will be a breakthrough. After a shaky start in “Playing God,” she has slowly been building a credible resume, including the HBO movie “Gia” and the recent feature “Pushing Tin.”

There have been a lot of wild and wacky features this fall. “The Bone Collector” is more traditional, effective not because of dark satire or flashy visuals, but good old-fashioned storytelling.



THE SAN FRANCISCO Taiko Dojo and Cal Performances present the International Taiko Festival at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13, and 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 14, at Zellerbach Hall on the UC-Berkeley Campus. The event is a celebration of Japanese ritual drumming. Tickets \$20, \$25 or \$30. Call 510-642-9988.

Frisell’s strumming slowly toward future

By Andrew Gilbert

When Bob Dylan made his pilgrimage to Nashville in 1969, he produced the gentle and loving “Nashville Skyline.” But the city’s spell didn’t last long, and Dylan’s lyrics were soon as sharp-edged as ever.

For Bill Frisell, the journey to Nashville was a transformative experience that’s still shaping his music four years later.

Bill Frisell’s New Quartet performed at Yoshi’s Tuesday and Wednesday.

One of the most influential jazz guitarists to emerge in the ’80s, the restlessly creative Frisell is very much a work in progress. His ever-evolving sound is deeply rooted in Americana, blending elements of bebop, avant-garde jazz, bluegrass, blues and rock.

Earning acclaim

Though there’s long been a pastoral strain in Frisell’s sound, he was never a student of American folk music, at least not until his trip to Music City in 1995, when his collaboration with leading country studio musicians produced his Nonesuch album “Nashville.” The CD won album of the year in Down Beat magazine’s 1998 critics’ poll, and Frisell was also voted guitarist of the year. Ever since he’s been absorbing influences from the musicians he’s discovered in his search for the origins of the music he experienced in Nashville.

“When I went to Nashville, that kind of opened up these floodgates,” Frisell said from his home in Seattle, where he lives with his wife and teen-age daughter. “There’s been this conscious effort to check out the old-time musicians, where the lines were a little more blurred between what was blues and what was country. It’s like, is this guy white or is he black? I really like that when you can’t tell, when the music hadn’t yet been cut up and put in boxes the way it is now.”

With his soft, boyish face, guileless manner and tentative voice, Frisell, 48, doesn’t look or sound the part of a musical visionary. But throughout his career he’s fearlessly followed his muse, extending the guitarist’s sonic possibilities as he’s coaxed sounds out of his instrument never heard before. His ability to weave-together seemingly disparate styles, from heavy metal thrash to crystalline Jim Hall-inspired single-note runs, has led many to describe him as a post-modernist, but his music is infused with wide-eyed humor rather than irony.

The impact of his Nashville experience wasn’t apparent until last year’s brilliant trio session “Gone, Just Like a Train.” The folk influence is even more obvious on his most recent album, “Good Dog Happy Man,” a gorgeous acoustic-oriented session featuring Greg Leisz on mandolin, Dobro, pedal and lap steel guitars.

Combining styles

The album sustains an elegiac

mood throughout Frisell’s 11 timeless-sounding tunes, each a gentle, melodic gem (the traditional song “Shenandoah,” which features guitarist Ry Cooder, rounds out the album). But as an artist who has consistently looked for new directions, Frisell sounds almost unnerved about his obsession with the past.

“It’s like I sort of went down this alley for a while, just listening a lot to that old music, like Blind Willie Johnson and Ralph Stanley,” he said. “It’s kind of a bottomless pit, and you could spend the rest of your life trying to figure out how that stuff works. I want to try to keep looking forward.”

Frisell’s performances in Oakland on Tuesday and Wednesday was near the end of a national tour that introduced his latest band. Featuring former Bay Area resident Kenny Wollesen on drums, David Piltch on bass and Greg Leisz on various acoustic guitars and mandolin, the quartet has quickly mastered Frisell’s music, melding improvisation with his deceptively simple melodic lines.

For Frisell, a player who craves musical feedback from attentive collaborators, the quartet offers him his first dedicated group since he disbanded his celebrated trio with bassist Kermit Driscoll and drummer Joey Baron in 1996.

“With these guys, we just start playing and the music takes care of itself,” Frisell said. “They understand what I’m doing but they’ve got their own worlds going on outside of mine. They’re all like my teachers

and kind of surprise me all the time.”

Surprise has been the hallmark of Frisell’s two decades in the jazz spotlight. The calm eye at the center of a creative vortex, the guitarist devours musical influences and leaves the sounds reconfigured after he’s passed through. From his perspective, the spinning journey across the American landscape is a slow incremental process. But no matter how engaged he is with his project of the moment, Frisell always has one eye searching the horizon.

“Wherever I am today, I’ve always got my mind way off out into the future,” Frisell says. “It’s like I’m just working on this little bit of stuff at this moment and that’s what people see, but then I’m hoping that all this other stuff will come together later on.”

Gifted

FROM PAGE C3

most danceable music in the world. Modern bands like Los Van Van, NG La Banda, Adalberto Alvarez y Su Son, Dan Den and Paulito y Su Elite can’t count on rising to fame on a wave of nostalgia, but their excellent music deserves to be heard.

Many of these bands manage to cut loose in fiery, modern improvisations that the gracious, low-key performers at the Paramount just didn’t achieve.

Closer to home, local Afro-Cuban bands like Conjunto Cespedes, Jesus Diaz y Su QBA, the Machete Ensemble and Orquesta La Moderna

Tradicion, among others, also deserve recognition for continuing to innovate within the great Cuban tradition.

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Mann

FROM PAGE C3

cally speaking, anyway, we have become almost British. Today’s “respectable” Enquirer might even run a line they took out of one story about The King, circa 1978. It came from Memphis’s chief medical examiner, who told the big tabloid:

“If Elvis is alive, he’s walking around without any of his internal organs.”

MEDIA ROUNDUP: KRON celebrates its 50th birthday Monday. It signed on in 1949 from offices in parent company’s Chronicle building at Fifth and Mission in S.F. In its early years, all of Channel 4’s commercials and programs for the next day were placed in large film cans and driven — by Chronicle newspaper delivery trucks — down to Mt. San Bruno south of the city where KRON’s transmitter and master control was located. One

day, former KRON film editor Stan Lighenstein recalls, the Chronicle truck was stolen. After a few hours of panic in the middle of the night by KRON employees, the truck was finally found at Ocean Beach — with the film cans intact ...

Channel 4 picked a good time — its 50th birthday AND November sweeps — to be cited by the Project for Excellence in Journalism, an affiliate of Columbia University’s Graduate Journalism School, as one of the four best TV news departments in the country. There’s only one problem: The study, oddly, examined only 11 p.m. newscasts, so KTVU’s award-winning 10:00 news wasn’t even considered. “It’s ridiculous,” says one Channel 2 news staffer, a solid reporter and newspaper vet. “Now KRON will be promoting this. What a farce.” Hard to disagree — as good as KRON’s news department is, overall, KTVU has the better talent and product. The Columbia J-school study blew it by dealing out KTVU. Channel 2’s re-

cent five-part report on the homeless, for example, “Can’t Find My Way Home” — it included a live report from New York City dealing with the Big Apple’s approach to the problem — was one of the best pieces of reporting on local news in recent years and provided insight into a seemingly intractable problem ... Highly recommended: This book would make a great Christmas gift: UC Press’ new “Imperial San Francisco,” author Gray Brechin’s thorough and comprehensive look at the dark underside and the robber barons who built the narcissistic city across the bay. The Hearsts, the DeYongs, all the usual suspects are here, and it’s juicy, well-researched stuff throughout. It’s one of the Berkeley imprint’s best offerings in years. You might say it’s one of the three most embarrassing things to happen to that city this year — along with the Niners and beyond-the-pale political extremist Tom Ammiano making the mayoral runoff.

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Magnes Museum

“Chagall: Master Prints and Posters, Selections from the Magnes Museum Collection,” opens Nov. 21 and runs through March 26. An exhibit of 26 master lithographs and etchings plus strikingly designed posters. Included are a selection from the artist’s series of 105 hand-colored etchings illustrating the Bible, and five color-lithograph maquettes for the famous Jerusalem window. Accompanying the exhibition is “Exploring Chagall and his use of the El-

ements of Art,” a child-friendly Interactive Educational Room with five work-stations and a central activities space.

Also opening is “Collecting for the Future: Recent Acquisitions to the Magnes Museum Collection,” Nov. 21 through March 26. An exhibit of highlights from recent acquisitions by the museum, ranging from a San Francisco ex-supervisor’s hat to paintings by Victor Vasarely and Yaacov Agam, prints by Israeli artist Anna Ticho, to a Haggadah and a Megillah illustrated by Nahum Gutman. Sinage and exhibition arrangement will help visitors learn how curators and librarians select acquisitions.

The museum is also holding screenings for the sixth International Jewish Video Competition, through Dec. 30. The 28 winning video tapes from the competition will be given continuous screenings. Videos include those from Australia, Brazil, Canada and the United States.

Free. Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. Details: 510-549-6950.

Bryan Ferry

Bryan Ferry plays at the Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland on Nov. 15, 8 p.m. performing classic songs from the 1930s. Tickets: \$35-\$75.

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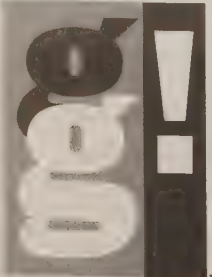
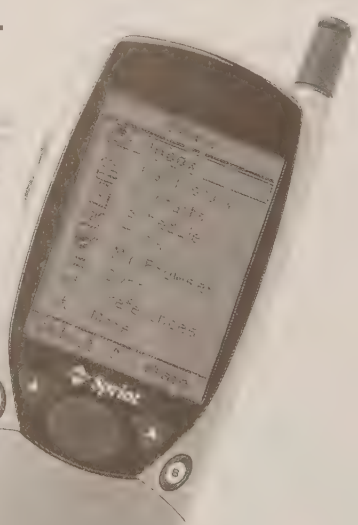
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Blue Dolphins hold awards ceremony

STAFF REPORTS

The Albany Blue Dolphins held their annual award ceremony at the Albany Recreational and Community Center, Sept. 27. This year was not just another award ceremony, it was a celebration. Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson was present to congratulate the Dolphins team on its success.

The Blue Dolphins are a long established (over 30 years) swim team that has enjoyed its most successful season to date this year. They train in Albany and offer swim instruction to swimmers between the ages of 5 and 18.

The team has established two groups, an "A" group whose main focus is to train swimmers to qualify for national meets, including junior and senior meets, and a "B" group that focuses on developing and encouraging swimmers. The program's general goal is to familiarize swimmers with the strokes, learn proper stroke mechanics, develop and maintain a strong aerobic training base, learn racing techniques, as well as offering a fun environment for swimmers to develop friendships.

The team's coaches consist of former UC-Berkeley swimmers, including Head Coach Ahmad Filsoof

and assistant Tim Haney.

Filsoof hails from the world-renowned Mission Viejo Nadadores.

He trained under legendary coaches Bill Rose and Jack Simon, who between them produced over 60 Olympic athletes. Filsoof qualified for the Olympic trials, and before that established himself as one of the nation's finest age-group swimmers, placing as high as second nationally in several events.

Haney swam for the Golden West Swim Club, where he excelled in the middle distance as well as individual medley events. He has broken and set several national age-group records. Tim was coached by Bud McCalister, the coach of three-time Olympian Janet Evers.

This past summer, the Blue Dolphins made a huge leap from a mediocre recreational team to one of the county's finest competitive teams.

At the Scotsdale Invitational, the Blue Dolphins placed second against 24 teams, competing with the second fewest swimmers among the teams. Several Blue Dolphins made names for themselves throughout the course of the swim season.

Tony Wang, an eighth-grader at Albany Middle School, established

himself as one of the county's finest, placing second and third at the county meet, which includes teams from all of Contra Costa County.

Tony would have placed among the top 40 nationally for his age division.

Another Albany Middle School seventh-grader, Noelle Sun, also placed high at the county meet, despite swimming against older swimmers in her age group. Noelle broke several meet records, including one that had not been broken for 10 years in the backstroke.

Other Dolphins from Albany who placed highly at the county meet include Carlos Martinez, Keri Pock, Tony Tran, Ying-Ying Yuan and Steve Band.

Filsoof believes that the success of the Blue Dolphins is due to the swimmers' work ethic and discipline. He hopes to instill in his swimmers the lessons needed in swimming as well as life.

"I am fortunate to be around a lot of great swimmers who have devoted themselves to success, as well as many great parents," he said.

Filsoof hopes to build the success that has been established, and he feels that right now there is the right mix of coaches, athletes and parents to achieve that goal.

Childrens' imaginations tapped for playground ideas

STAFF REPORTS

They may still be learning verb conjugation, but the ideas and comments of Berkeley's pint-sized architectural critics won't be overlooked by planners of the city's latest playground.

Tuesday, designers will join classes at Berkeley's Washington School to solicit ideas for a playground planned for Aquatic Park.

What the children will dream up is anyone's guess, but by 7:30 p.m. designer Robert Leathers will triage the possible from the fantastic and draw up a concrete proposal.

Leathers will unveil preliminary plans at a public event at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, at Washington School.

"This is not an off-the-shelf playground out of a catalog," said Mark Kallos, a member of Berkeley Partners for Parks, a nonprofit group. "This will be a unique structure designed and built by the community. This is a chance for the talents of the community to create something with their own ideas."

The group has secured grants from the federal government, the city, Bay Area and local schools, but must seek individual contributions. The site, near where Channing Way

would meet Bolivar Drive, has to be raised and expensively prepared before the playground can go in.

Leathers, a playground designer from Ithaca, N.Y., uses children's ideas to design parks.

The Aquatic Park playground will be the second Leathers-designed park in California after a similar project in Benicia. Leathers will spend time over the next several months figuring out how much wood, bolts and other materials builders will need.

Berkeley Partners for Parks hopes to organize a team of neighbors and parents as construction volunteers to make the children's dreams a reality. The group will organize five "build days" in the spring for young and old to sand, saw, and nail together the playground. The group will reach out to Berkeley residents to help sponsor park construction by selling boards and handpainted tiles.

The group has already gotten agreements from neighbors. The inclusive effort comes after the group successfully rehabilitated Virginia-McGee Totland with mainly volunteer workers.

Unless students criticize the city for "shoving this anti-see-saw plan down the community's throat" or accusing planners of "being pawns of

an anti-slide conspiracy," the new park should open in the spring. To participate in the playground planning and building and to learn more, call Project General Coordinator Zasa Swanson at 510-649-9874.

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- Health Net (PPO)
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- Mutual of Omaha Plaza (EPO/HMO)
- National Health Plan (PPO)
- National Preferred Provider Network (PPO)
- New York Life Insurance Co. (PPO)
- Northern California Butchers Union
- Northern California Food Employee & Retail Clerks (PPO)
- One Health Plan (HMO)
- Pacificare (HMO, PPO)
- Pacificare-Secure Horizons (HMO)
- Pacific Foundation for Medical Care (EPO, PPO)
- Preferred Health Network (PPO)
- Preferred Medical Systems, Inc. (PPO)
- Prime Care Health Network, Inc.
- Private Health Care Systems (EPO)
- Prucare Plus (HMO)
- Pru-Net (PPO)
- Santa Fe Employees Hospital Association (PPO)
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Jack London Book and Paper Collectors Fair is Nov. 14

The Jack London Book and Paper Collectors Fair comes to the Radisson Hotel at the Berkeley Marina, 200 Marina Blvd., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 14. The 19-year-old event is the largest and oldest of its kind in the state, exhibiting over 50 dealers in antique books and collectibles.

Books will include fine, antiquarian, out-of-print, first editions, autographed and inscribed, small and pri-

vate presses, and university presses.

Ephemera and paper collectibles cover such areas as autographs, advertising, ethnic, world fairs, calendars, catalogues, California, documents, maps, movie memorabilia, original posters, prints, photographs, trade cards, pulp magazines, sheet music, theater programs, railroading and "tons of postcards."

Admission is \$6. Parking is free. Details: 444-2159.

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Classes

A CopWatch class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake Street near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., presents its annual fall "Owner Contracting" intensive Monday through Thursday, Nov. 15-18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Topics are: "Project Management and Scheduling" by contractor/custom home builder/developer Scott Achelis; "Legal Aspects," by attorney Sterling Johnson; "Estimating the Cost of Labor and Materials," by general contractor John Reed; "Dispute Prevention and Early Resolution," by mediator Ron Kelly. Call 525-7610 for additional information.

The Pacific School of Religion presents Dr. Ibrahim M. Abu-Rabi, professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations, in one-day seminar in the school's Bade Museum, 1798 Scenic Ave., on Wednesday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Topics: Islam, History, Theology, and Philosophy, 10 a.m. to noon; Lunch non to 1 p.m. and Islam and the West, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call Berkeley Community Media (BMC), Channel 25, for affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BMC to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

Disaster Preparedness Classes offered by Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services are scheduled as follows: Nov. 13, 9-11 a.m., Basic Personal Preparedness; Nov. 20, 9-12 a.m. Fire Suppression; Dec. 4, 9 to 12 a.m. Light Search and Rescue; and

Dec. 11-12 Disaster First Aid. All classes are held at the 997 Cedar Street. The classes are open to anyone, 18 or older, who live or work in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call Dory Ehrlich at 644-8736, ext. 229.

The El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane offers a series of classes On Basic Crochet for beginners and intermediate, Tuesdays and Thursdays, through Nov. 25, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane, offers Line Dancing classes for beginners and intermediates continuing through, Nov. 23 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Residents \$30 and non residents \$37.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the resources available to the public including a variety of workshops held Tuesdays, at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 848-6370.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dances classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalaranjai Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a nonprofit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

The Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., offers a hands-on workshop for making a simple solar cooker using only sunlight as fuel. Learn basic solar principles and hear how solar cooker benefits people around the world. Cost is \$10 for non members; \$7.50 for members, plus \$10 for materials. Call 548-2220 for more information and to sign up.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The center offers a variety of workshops. Orientation is Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. For more information call 848-6370.

Berkeley Community Media presents classes covering camera techniques,

movement, composition of shots, tempo, continuity, editing, sound influence. Screenings will include works of Godard, Wong Kar Wai, Spike Lee, and others. This class is for anyone interested in film, video and the power of the media. Call 848-2288, ext. 810 for additional information.

"Learn Your Rights When Dealing with the Police," a free three-hour orientation teaches how to observe police and to help prevent police brutality. Copwatch is a grassroots, all-volunteer organization, which works to defend the rights of everyone under the law. For additional information, call 548-0425.

Life Stories/Collage and Ceramics classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

Contemporary Women's Issues class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

Dance and Fitness Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, belly dance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370.

Let's Swing and Jitterbug; 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate, four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

Children

The Harvest Faire takes place at East Bay Waldorf School, 3800 Clark Road,

in El Sobrante, on Saturday, Nov. 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a country store, music, children activities, craft demonstration, and a lunch cafe. Donation: \$3. Children free. Call 223-3570 for additional information.

The Buddy Club Children's Show features ventriloquist Steve Chaney and singer Lisa Atkinson on Sunday Nov. 21 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center Theater, 1249 Marin Ave. Tickets: \$7 per person, under 2 free. For all tickets, birthday party reservations, and show information call 652-SHOW.

La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., presents Mascant Puppet Theater, a bilingual puppet theater for children of all ages on Saturday, Nov. 6 Children's programs begin at 10:30 a.m. Adults \$4, children \$3. Call 849-2568 for additional information.

Harding Elementary School announces its first art show at Espresso a La Carte, 7508 Fairmount in El Cerrito. The show features photographs, visual art pieces and poetry by kindergarten through sixth grade participants in the PTA Reflections Arts program. Art works may be viewed from Monday Nov. 8 through Monday Nov. 15 when they will be removed for judging and advancement to District Wide competition.

The Child Car Seat Safety Check-up

takes place on Saturday, Nov. 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Douglas Parking Lot across from Spencers, Hearst Ave. and 4th St. Enter on Hearst Avenue. Trained technicians help to install car seats properly. More than 80 percent of child safety seats are used wrong. For more information call Berkeley Public Health at 665-6839 or Alameda County Public Health at 628-7607.

Kids and their adult companions can explore the University of California Botanical Garden with Docent Lois Paul the last Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. You will visit a section of the Garden that represents a different continent or foreign country, find out what's special about the plants that grow there, and then draw what you see. Call 643-2755 to reserve your space.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for

additional information.
YWCA Health and Community classes; drop in classes in dance, yoga, martial arts and more. YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. \$8-\$10.

Community

Congregation Beth El presents a Hanukkah celebration; seasonal gifts, menorah, traditional food, toys and other holiday items on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission free. School groups are welcome. Call 848-3988 for additional information.

North Berkeley Senior Center, Hearst St., offers a Calypso and Art Museum trip on Nov. 13. Call Suzanne at 644-6107 for additional information.

"Mambo Madness," a belly dancing local salsa band and oratory co-chairs Juana and Peter Covado takes place on Friday, Nov. 12 at Mr. E's Jazz Club, 2284 Shattuck Ave. The Latin swing party includes dinner, cocktails and a 6:30 to 9 p.m. and Music and Dance from 9 p.m. to midnight. Donation structure provided. Channing Ph

See CALENDAR



ANNE HAMERSKY

KLEZMER MANIA! founded by Kaila Flexer and mandolinist Mike Marshall is joined by Next Village for a festival of Jewish and Eastern European music and culture, will perform on Friday, November 26 at Cal Performances, University of California at Berkeley

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C6

Alameda Schock Mintzer, an attorney with Berkeley Rep trustee Marilyn Rees. Event sponsors include Mr. E's, Gordon and Beauvais Vineyards. Tickets \$10, includes dinner, cocktails, reserved seating, cocktails, dancing. Call 204-8914 for more information.

Operators Anonymous meet Fridays at 7:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin Avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. The organization is for individuals who are compulsive. For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Durant Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Call Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA. 94701.

Work Buddies: volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum 30 hour commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nanette at 444-8292.

Psycho Healing clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, free clinic at the Academy for Psychology Studies in Berkeley, audio cleansing, stress relief. 1-800-642-9355

SMART project the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two types of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8822 and agreeing to do three interviews,

individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-in-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley, serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

"A Changing Exhibit of New Work," exhibition continues through November at the Strawberry Creek Design Center, 1250 Addison St., #214. The exhibit features the works of Susan Brooks, Carol Shanks, Sherilyn Sharp, and Laurel Fenenga. Gallery hours: Thursdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call 845-2612.

The "Tobias Rehberger/Matrix 180 Sunny-side up" exhibit, continues through Nov. 14 at The University of California, Berkeley Art Museum, 2625 Durant Ave. Rehberger is a conceptual artist from Germany whose work has been featured at the 1997 Venice Biennale and Manifesta 2 in Luxembourg. Call 642-0808 for additional information.

"Snowmen in Summer" a solo exhibition by Carrie Lederer takes place at the John F. Kennedy Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. The exhibition opens with a public reception for the artist on Friday, Nov. 5, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information call 649-0499.

Lawrence Hall of Science, continues

its new exhibit "The Atoms Family" through January 9. The exhibit explores the complex world of energy and matter. The daily live demonstrations include hands-on activities. The museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults; \$4 for children seniors and students; \$2 for children 3-6. LHS is located above UC Berkeley campus on Centennial Drive. For information, call 642-5132 or check www.lhs.berkeley.edu.

Traywick Gallery, 1316 10th St., continues solo exhibitions of Bay Area artists: Steve Briscoe and Jamie Brunson through Nov. 21. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Call Katrina Traywick or Robin Galias at 527-1214 for more information.

The sixth annual "Women of Color Arts and Crafts Show" takes place on Saturday, Nov. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Admission is free. The show presents a group of exhibitors selling their original, hand-crafted work. This year features paintings, clay sculptures, textile, jewelry, quilts decorative functional furniture and wearable art. Call Adalia at 845-0422 for additional information.

An exhibition of exquisite Indian miniature paintings dating from the fifteenth to early twentieth centuries, presented by UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, continues through Nov. 28. Guided tours of the exhibition is offered by UC-Berkeley graduate students on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. For further information on these or any other museum programs, call 642-0808.

The Berkeley Potters Guild holds its 28th annual winter holiday sale during the weekends of Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 4-5 and during the entire week of Dec. 11-23. Nineteen Guild members will display current works throughout their complex of open studios. The Guild is located at 731 Jones St. at 4th St., just off the Gilman St. exit of I-80. Call 524-

7031 or visit the web site at Berkeley-Potters.com.

UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive presents the latest exhibition in the Matrix Program for Contemporary Art "Tobias Rehberger/Matrix 180 Sunny-side up, through Nov. 14. Rehberger is a conceptual artist from Germany. The exhibit will be his first one-person museum exhibition in North America. Call 642-2250 for additional information.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary events

The First Congregational Church of Berkeley continues its Poetry and Sacred Series, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m., with Sam Keen, speaking on "Poetry Black Lace and the Sacred." Keen is author of "Fire in the Belly" and "Learning to Fly." Suggested donation: \$5. The church is located on Dana between Channing and Durant. Call 848-7024 for additional information.

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It is available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

"Daily Word" readers: Study Unity principles at Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph, Wednesday noon to 1 p.m. Contact Anne Allen, 843-5611.

Meetings

The City Commons Club meets in the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.

every Friday. Social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. in the Venetian Room. Luncheon served at 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. \$10.75 or \$12.25. Speaker starts promptly at 12:30 p.m. Admission \$1 with coffee. Student admission free. Call 848-3533 for speaker information or to make reservations if you are bringing more than one guest.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2088 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

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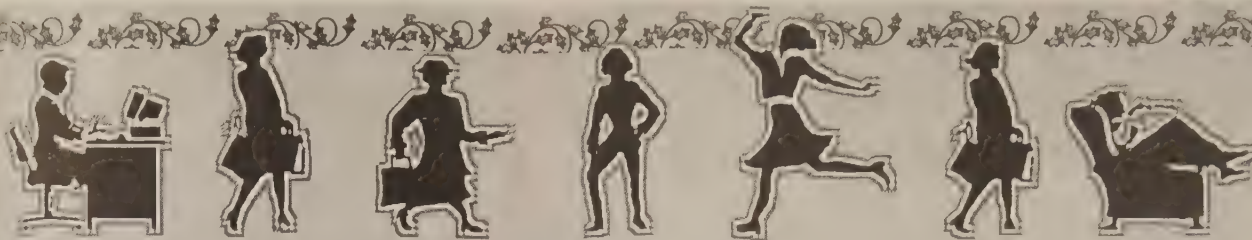
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Clients like the way they are treated with dignity and respect in a comfortable office environment. Her considerate and well-trained staff has helped hundreds of people with the most personal of legal problems including business, tax and estate planning.

Every client benefits from Susan's masters degree in tax law and over 18 years of business and tax experience. Whether they come for a single consultation or an entire case, every client leaves with some new ideas and a roadmap to the next step toward solving their problem.

Business owners often consult Susan because her active community involvement as a member of numerous civic and charitable boards and organizations helps her solve business problems.

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Committed to service, the Law Office of Susan Jeffries offers handicap accessibility and free parking at 2159 Central Ave., near Walnut Street in Alameda.

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Jeti Salemi prides herself in creating fashion styles and precision haircuts for men and women.

Jeti has 12 years experience in the Indonesia and is a winner of seven competitions here in the Bay Area.

Jeti has joined Aimee's Salon where full service is available to her customers including: Hair, Facials and Waxing at the best prices.

Aimee's Salon is located in Montclair next to Wells Fargo Bank, Village Square, Free Parking, Gift Certificates available.

Call for Appointments.

Jeti Salemi
at Aimee's Creations

2220 Mountain Blvd.
Suite 150



Oakland, California 94611

Montclair
(510) 530-0942
Call for an
appointment today!

Joanne Huie Hawkins Design Group

Joanne Huie recently joined Hawkins Design Group as an Interior Designer. With over 4 years of commercial design experience, Joanne was formerly a color consultant/commercial interior designer for Saylor Incorporated, in San Mateo.

Joanne's commercial design experience includes the renovation of apartment buildings and condominium common areas and Clubhouses. Projects range from a small 40 unit building to a large 1,000 unit condominium complex in which Joanne provides the client with a master plan that includes paint colors, wallcovering, floorcovering, lighting, furnishings, plants, artwork and interior signage suggestions. Joanne finds this area of design particularly rewarding because of the increase in value of the property after a re-design face lift. Joanne says, "Selecting furnishings and finishes that matches the clients lifestyle is the fun part of the job, but meeting client's budgets is the necessary challenge". She is a designer that thrives on accomplishing both objectives.

Joanne's educational background includes a B.S. in



Interior Design from San Jose State University and a B.S. in Accounting from San Francisco State University. Prior to being an interior designer she was a tax accountant at Dean Witter Reynolds in San Francisco. Her combined backgrounds make her particularly knowledgeable of budgeting and cost control matters and well-suited to serve the best interest of the client.

510-654-4295

Odessa Donovan Hair Tailor

The Hair Tailor is welcoming back a familiar face to their newly remodeled salon.

Odessa Donovan has worked in the Montclair area for ten years, and is now offering European facials, glycolic peels and fullbody waxing services. Odessa is available Tuesday through Saturday and encourages scheduling complimentary skin analysis consultations.

Don't let the holidays sneak up on you. Schedule your appointment now. Gift certificates available.



Odessa Donovan
Hair Tailor

1944 Mountain Blvd.
Oakland (510) 338-0400

Heather Ackroyd Event & Floral Designer

BA/BS Cum Laude,
Health Science/ Psychology
San Francisco State University

Heather joined Hawkins Design Group in February 1999 as an Event and Floral Designer. Heather has thirteen years experience. She relocated to the Bay area six years ago to explore other aspects of design. Heather's specialty is decorating the home or office to aesthetically match your style and create a harmonious atmosphere.

Formal or informal, Heather can create a plan for your event or home while staying within your budget. An initial no-cost consultation is offered to you at this time. Experiences include events for President Clinton, Robert Mondavi, The Getty Family, American Red Cross, Academy of Friends and many other non-profit organizations.

Her combined accounting and design



background make her particularly knowledgeable and aware of budgeting and cost control matters and thus well suited to serve the best interests of the client.

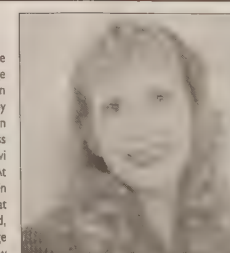
Hawkins Design Group
(510) 654-4295

www.hawkinsdesign.com

Gina M. Mariani Attorney at Law

Gina Mariani is a native Alameda, a graduate of the Alameda public schools and state college system. While attending law school in San Francisco, she was employed as a law clerk by the legendary lawyer, Melvin M. Bell, and upon graduating, she was employed by a business litigation law firm dedicated to defending Levi Strauss & Co.'s world famous trademarks. At that time, while volunteering for the Lawyers in the Library program, Ms. Mariani realized that the legal system could be complicated, unfriendly and too costly for the average person. With that in mind, she left the big law firm environment to start her own solo law practice, emphasizing friendly and affordable legal services, and focusing specifically on Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills & Trusts, Probate, Guardianship and Bankruptcy.

Gina Mariani has dedicated herself to providing personable legal services. She answers her own telephone, returns calls promptly and handles each case with an individual touch.



Working out retainer deposits and fee arrangements to fit her client's income brackets and paydays are key. Also, she arranges appointments around her client's work or school schedules and special needs, which include evening, weekend, home or hospital appointments.

Gina M. Mariani (510) 523-4310



Pets and the cold weather

By James M. Harris, DVM

The return of Pacific Standard Time and the setting of the sun to the south over San Mateo heralds the weather changing to our colder wet season. We prepare our homes by cleaning gutters and drainage systems and check our motor vehicles for protection from the cold.

Let us not forget that our companion animals also need some preparations before winter sets in.

Some of us have outside dog areas where our canine friends spend the day or nights as well. Dogs tolerate cold much better than heat but they do need shelter from the elements in a dry, draft free, insulated structure if they are outside.

Dog houses should be insulated, off the ground, protected from wind and rain, and only large enough for the dog to fit inside, stand up, and turn around in. Dog houses are warmed by the dogs own body heat and if the dog house is too large heat is lost.

Check dog runs for good drainage. Cement that has been pitched down hill is ideal, drains well and can be hosed off. Gravel can be used to provide a well drained surface in a dog run. Poorly drained dirt will turn to mud and will create problems. Needless to say dogs prefer to be inside during inclement weather.

Cats that go outside also need a warm dry place out of the wind and the rain. They too would prefer to sleep in the middle of your bed all day long but, if that is not acceptable and the cat is outside consider an entry way to the garage or a suitable house in a dry sheltered location.

Remember that animals that spend a lot of time outside exposed to the cooler weather need a few more calories per day. Check their weights occasionally and adjust their food volume to maintain an ideal weight. Ask your Veterinarian what your pet should weigh and try to keep that weight year round.

Pet birds need special attention as well. Clean furnace filters now. A large amount of dust collects in forced air systems. This debris is full of mould spores which if producing a respiratory infection can kill the bird. You will also breathe easier if the filters are clean.

As the days shorten our reptile friends start to hibernate. Although this process of suspended animation is normal reptiles should not be allowed to hibernate unless they are in good condition, and heavy enough to stand the long period of rest without food.

If you do allow your turtle to hibernate be sure to supply it with a secure place free from rodents and other insects. If in doubt do not allow hibernation. You can prevent it by keeping the animal at room temperature.

A little preparation will go a long way in making your companion animals comfortable and ready to face winter.

Separation Anxiety

by Allen A. Cesafsky, D.V.M.

You probably regard your pet not just as a household fixture but as an important family member. Behavioral problems have become a primary concern among pet owners and a rapidly growing topic of research and expertise in veterinary medicine.

The nature of the average American household is changing. There are more single households where the pet owner spends longer periods of time away from his pet.

In family households both parents often work and even the children are away for longer periods of time. Pet's are often left alone for over 10 hours a day with little left to do. Left alone, a pet can become anxious or even panic because they do not understand why their human companions have left them or be assured they will ever return. Dogs develop separation anxiety

and exhibit behavioral problems including barking, chewing, scratching, house soiling and digging outdoors. Pet owners often mistake their

pet's reaction to being left alone as "getting even." Overreacting to such behaviors only increases your pet's anxiety. It is important to treat separation anxiety as your dog suffers under these circumstances. Your dog panics each time he is left alone, away from his family.

If ignored, the anxiety becomes worse and your dog suffers even more. Treatment involves medical intervention and behavior modification. Medically, your veterinarian will prescribe a daily dose of "Clomicalm," which relieves anxiety and facilitates positive behavior. It is not a tranquilizer or sedative.

Lastly, your veterinarian can provide you with advice on behavioral therapy and modification training.

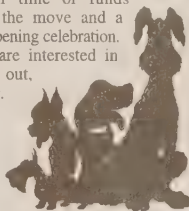


Allen A. Cesafsky

Oakland Animal Shelter moves to new home

The new facility for the Oakland Animal Shelter at 1101 29th Avenue, Oakland is slated to open around November 23. The shelter is urgently seeking help from volunteers to facilitate this move.

The shelter appreciates any donations of time or funds toward the move and a grand opening celebration. If you are interested in helping out, call Mr. Glenn Howell, Director at (510) 535-5615.



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT mounted officers from left, Officer Ed Fuentes, Officer Spradlin, and Officer Alfredo Anaya.

Companion animals in the line of duty

There is a special bond between horse and rider when so much time is spent together working for public good.

These special enforcement mounted officers routinely patrol our East Bay Regional Park trails.

provide for the safety of park users, stand watch at public events and when necessary issue citations.

Quite often an officer in a patrol car is just considered a "cop." But a mounted patrolman is a friendly face and visitors in the park are surprised and delighted to see a

approach to give the horse, rider, and pet and ask for directions and information.

Congratulations to the dedicated horsemen and riders who have a concern for safety in our parks.

Horseback Riding on East Bay Park Trails

Ever wanted to ride a horse in the peace and beauty of a park? Learn about our vast network of trails for horses and hikers available within 15 minutes of your home. Weekend classes in horseback riding and enjoying your trails available. For information call Heritage Trails, 925-672-5072.

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Therapeutic Pet Bathing

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Super Buy!
Limit 2 Bags
Per Family Effective 11/10-11/16

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5.5 Oz.

All Varieties

Limit 2 Cases
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4/\$1
Effective 11/10-11/16

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Max Special 25 Lb. Bag \$16.99
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Limit 2 Bags per Family Effective 11/10-11/16

Super Buy!

SCIENCE DIET CANINE MAINTENANCE DRY DOG FOOD
40 Lb. Bag

• Regular Only

Limit 2 Bags Per Family Effective 11/10-11/16

\$22.99

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20 Lb. Bag

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13 Oz.

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Limit 1 Case Per Family

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Healthy Formula with Unique Blend of Ingredients

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20 Lb. Box

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26" - 42" 26" Height

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Just add water and Gravel

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Limit One Coupon Per Family
Effective 11/10-11/16 Price Valid Only With Coupon

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Limit 1 Bag With Coupon
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5.5 Oz. Variety 3-pack
Limit 3-3 Packs with coupon
Limit 1 coupon per family
Prices valid only with coupon Effective 11/10-11/16

79¢

Each Life Counts...Help Us Help The Animals

By Nancy DuPont

Thanks to a great response to October's Adopt a Pet feature, over half of the pets found new homes. All except Tawny and Jack who were not adopted because of their larger size. We hope someone will consider these two, each one is a gentle personality captured in the body of a big dog.

We welcome the addition of the lovely animals from "Home at Last" a shelter in Berkeley that rescues animals that otherwise would remain at the Berkeley Animal Shelter. You can reach them at 510-501-7021 to adopt Max, a one-year old neutered male.

TO ADOPT ONE OF THESE WONDERFUL ANIMALS CALL

The Oakland East Bay SPCA
510-569-0702

Carnivale Children's Store Provides A Place To Show Off Pets

Children and pets just seem to go together! On the last Friday of every month the Oakland SPCA sets up cages in front of the Carnivale Children's store located at 2017 Mountain Blvd. in Montclair Village filled with adoptable dogs and cats.

Over 75% of these pets have found homes in the last year. Bring the kids by and be tempted to take home a new best friend! Next adoption day will be Friday, November 26, 1999 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"Francis"

SPONSORED BY

DR. LAURA VANHARN
THE PHYTNESSE
CONNECTION

6116 La Salle Ave., Oakland • 339-6546



The Berkeley East Bay
Humane Society
510-845-7735

A Letter Worth Sharing...

Dear Nancy,

The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is very grateful for your efforts in creating an advertising page dedicated to shelter pets at our Humane Society and Oakland's. Thanks to the advertisement that ran on October 12, we adopted out one of our adult dogs and two of our adult cats and had a record day of adoptions of kittens and puppies on Saturday.

We especially want to thank the generous merchants who demonstrated their love of animals by sponsoring the ones from the shelters on your advertising page. We would also like to acknowledge Ms. Jessica Donchas, who volunteered her time to come to the shelter and take the lovely photographs that captured the animals' personalities so well.

The Montclair, yourself and the merchants who participated truly created a dream come true for the shelter animals. Advertising exposure is not usually an option for a small shelter whose funds must go directly into the care of the animals. We sincerely hope that you can publish this letter to let everyone know what you have all accomplished.

Yours Truly,

Larry Bruderer

Larry Bruderer, Executive Director
Berkeley East Bay Humane Society



Elspeth Forder Madden reassures her new adopted pet, Shorty, on his first visit to Dr. Allen Cesafsky, DVM for his health exam. (Shorty is not so sure this is fun!)

A "Shorty" but Beautiful Story

Shorty, a one-year-old white male Pitt-Lab mix is one of the lucky dogs to find a wonderful home with Elspeth Forder and John Madden of Oakland. Adopted from the Oakland SPCA about four months ago, Shorty was immediately put into the SPCA puppy training program and graduated at the

top of his class.

"We heard that a mix breed is a smart dog and Shorty just proves it! We are very happy with our choice." We really have to thank the Oakland SPCA for their guidance and Dr. Cesafsky for the understanding care Shorty gets at his veterinary clinic.

"Bob"

SPONSORED BY

BERTHA LOGAN

To Adopt Bob, Call Home at Last,
A Non-Profit Animal Rescue Agency
P.O. Box 11086, Oakland, CA 94611
(510) 501-7021
www.homeatlastrescue.org



"Max"

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To Adopt Max, Call Home at Last,
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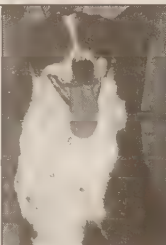


"Jake"

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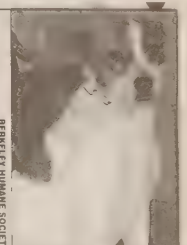


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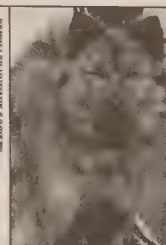


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The Greatest Basset Hounds in the World!
Danville, California



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"Snow"

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PAMPERED PET

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Sitter of the Year. We can love and care to your
pets while you are away.
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Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

Spirituality and Healing. Voices of Healing Story Circles. Spiritually oriented healing group for people living with life-threatening illness. Meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment; 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships, Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Sup-

port Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS; 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Mann; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters; meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 643-7645.

Toastmasters; noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; stand up and say what you mean; practice with the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 863-6708.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight way, Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music

"By Word of Song," a concert by guitarist Phil Serrano takes place on Thursday, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. The performance will be recorded "live and produced as a CD. Serrano has accompanied Big Mama Thornton, Rose Maddox and Malvina Reynolds and many Bay Area and Boston rock and country music bands. Tickets: \$6 are available at the door and in advance at the La Pena gift shop. Call 849-2568 for ticket reservations.

Hausmusik sponsors a workshop and concert featuring the music of

Hildegard Von Bingen, Saturday, Nov. 13. The workshop offers an introduction to Hildegard's use of medieval neumatic notation from noon until 4 p.m. Workshop attendees are invited to participate in the concert which starts at 8 p.m. The concert "In Praise of the Divine: Music and Meditations from the Symphonia of St. Hildegard Von Bingen," features Illumina: Women's En-

semble for Early Music and Rauch. Both events take place at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 1508 Cypress Ave., Richmond. Workshop fee: \$60. Suggested concert donation \$15. Tickets for the concert, a benefit for St. Alban's building fund, may be purchased at the door. For additional information call 235-0627.

Ducksan Distones, featuring Donald

Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

The Jazzschool presents Sunday afternoon concerts at 4:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool LaNote Restaurant, 2375/77 Shattuck Ave. The concerts feature ap-

pearances by nationally renowned and top jazz musicians living in the Area. The talented faculty will include Mike Zilber, Bill Cooper, Jenna Mammola, and Chryse. Tickets for Sunday concerts are \$10 students/seniors, \$6 jazzschool members, \$5 for children up to 12 years. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 845-5373 for details.

GOODGUYS 10th *Tri-Valley Herald*

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November 13 & 14
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ALL YEARS, MAKES and MODELS WELCOME!

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HUGE Swap Meet • Cars 4 Sale • Exhibits

Show Hours  
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# The Auto Section

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, Alameda Journal

November 12, 1999

Section D

**Looking Back** 75 years ago, Chrysler made an impact at Le Mans [D2]

**New Models** Experimental 'mini-cars' cruise the streets of New York [D4]

**Classified** Find everything from jobs to homes for sale [D5]

## Audi TT went from "concept" straight to the road

The Audi TT could have easily been yet another example of a concept car heavily altered when taken "mainstream," but it wasn't. It garnered so many accolades at Germany's prestigious Frankfurt Auto Show in 1995, the company decided to put it into production almost unchanged.

Built on the chassis of the Volkswagen Golf or New Beetle, the TT comes in hardtop and convertible form, with front-wheel drive or all-wheel drive. This week we test a coupe with FWD.

**Outside:** Most concept cars end up vastly different in appearance from the vehicle sitting on display.

### Down the road

By Tom Hagin

The production TT, however, looks very close to the show car of 1995, the most noticeable difference being the addition of rear quarter windows, a move that no doubt improved visibility, and the enlarged air intake openings below the front bumper. The front and rear styling is unmistakably Audi.

The company employed a new technique called "Laser Braising" to seamlessly attach the C-pillars to the body. The front and rear overhangs are very short, and the body seems literally stretched over the visually-dominant wheels. As part of Audi's Performance Package, our test car was fitted with high-intensity xenon headlights and eight-spoke alloy wheels shod with 17-inch performance tires. The aluminum fuel filler cover is attached with genuine Allen screws, a motif that continues inside.

**Inside:** The TT's interior is made for spirited dri-



BUILT ON THE CHASSIS of the Volkswagen Golf, the Audi TT garnered many accolades at Germany's prestigious Frankfurt Auto Show in 1995.

See AUDI, Page 2

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# Chrysler did well at Le Mans 75 years ago

**By Larry Roberts**  
PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

The recent successes of the Dodge Vipers in professional sports car races in the hands of the factory-backed French Oreca team are spectacular, to say the least.

The latest issue of Mopar Performance News, Chrysler's motorsports monthly enthusiast's magazine, features the recent exploits of the team.

It won its last five long-distance endurance races in the FIA (International Automobile Federation) GT Championship and it is well in the running for the championship itself.

A second Oreca Viper took the runner-up spot, which was the fourth time in a row the team took the top two spots on the podium.

Oreca's main competition for the championship cup comes from other Vipers in the hands of private teams.

But in many ways, the Oreca/Chrysler assault on European professional endurance racing is a case of history repeating itself.

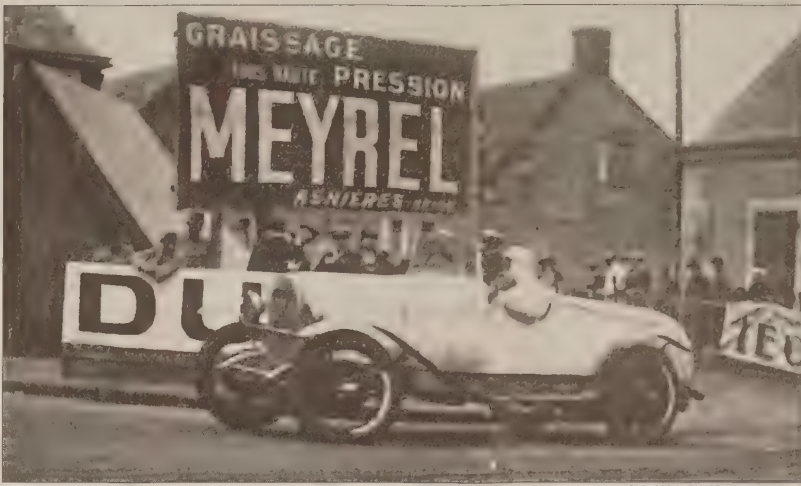
American cars were very popular in France in the '20s and when the third running of the 24 Hours of Le Mans came up in 1925, two Model B-70 Chrysler touring cars were entered by French enthusiasts.

For the times, the Chrysler B-70 was a very advanced design with hydraulic brakes (the first used on a relatively low-priced production-line car) and a high compression engine.

In view of the fact that the cars driven at Le Mans had to be pretty much standard and as produced, the Chrysler was a good low-budget choice but only one of the cars, co-driven by Henry Stoffel and Lucien Desvieux, made the starting grid.

After 24 grueling hours, the Number 6 Chrysler finished the race in seventh place, but fell short of the distance required to be "classified" and was therefore disqualified.

Although slight modifications were allowed to the bodywork of the competing machines, they nonetheless had to be true four-seaters that anyone could



**DRIVEN BY FRENCH** driving stars, two of the four Chryslers entered in the 1928 Le Mans finished in third and fourth place.

**For the times, the Chrysler B-70 was a very advanced design with hydraulic brakes and a high compression engine.**

buy off the showroom floor. It was a test of the endurance of "stock" cars.

To further test the practicality of the cars during the 1925 event, starting drivers were required to dash across the road from a spot directly opposite their mounts (the first year of the famous Le Mans Start), erect the top, attach the

side curtains (fixed-glass sedans were rare in the early '20s), start their engines and begin racing.

Period photos of the angular passenger cars charging nose to tail through the Arnage curve with their ponderous weather protection units in place have an almost comic aspect to them.

The 1928 race at Le Mans saw a well-organized team of four Model 72 Chryslers on the grid, powered by somewhat larger and more powerful engines.

They were driven by rising French driving stars and although not as fast as the first and second place Bentley and Stutz, two of the four Chryslers finished in the third and fourth place slots.

In 1929, Chryslers finished sixth and seventh at Le Mans, although one of them had briefly risen to third.

The '30s saw a move away from the idea that the Le Mans race was a test of "stock" passenger cars and it became a contest between pure-bred sports-racing cars.

American cars left the grid at the famous track, not to return until American sportsman Briggs Cunningham entered two Model 60 Cadillacs in 1950. But when Cunningham campaigned two-seaters built at his own factory in Florida in the 24 hour race a few years later, they were powered by Chrysler "Hemi" engines.

Classifications in the latest running of the 24 Hours of Le Mans rule out an overall win by the French, Belgian or German Viper teams but they are almost shoo-in to win the GT class in 2000.

And that's good enough for us ongoing Chrysler fans.

## AUTO SHORTS

### Jaguar gets a new president

Mike O'Driscoll, 43, the former Washington regional manager for Lincoln Mercury will succeed Michael Dale as president of Jaguar Cars North America.

O'Driscoll is a native of Coventry, England, Jaguar's home base. He has been at Lincoln Mercury and Ford for the past four years following 20 years at Jaguar. From 1992-95, he was Jaguar's general sales manager for the United States.

Dale will retire after a 42-year career on May 2. O'Driscoll rejoins Jaguar Cars North America as executive vice president on Dec. 1.

Dale reported that Jaguar Cars North America could top its all-time sales record in the U.S. of 24,464 early in November. The record was set in 1986.

### New traffic safety regulator

A 36-year-old economist and former congressional staffer is now in charge of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Transportation Secretary Rodney

Slater named Rosalyn Millman acting administrator responsible for motor vehicle safety regulations.

She joined the agency just last month as deputy administrator, the number two position, but suddenly found herself in charge when Administrator Ricardo Martinez resigned to take a job in the private sector.

### Nissan plans American push

A plan by Carlos Ghosn to save Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. will spare all but a few U.S. jobs while cutting 21,000 worldwide.

Nissan's chief operating officer announced plans to bolster North American production while shutting five plants in Japan. Ghosn promised to bring a wider variety of cars and trucks to the United States, and he promised to breathe new life into Infiniti, Nissan's luxury division.

Nissan North America, Inc. escaped the brunt of Ghosn's cuts, but it and those who do business with Nissan are expected to shoulder more responsibility. Suppliers will have to prove them-

selves if they are to survive cuts in the company's global purchasing ranks. Ad agency TBWA/Chiat Day will have to compete for a single global account.

No longer will Americans be able to blame Japan for products that missed the mark. Ghosn ruled that no new products will come to the United States without the American's blessing.

### Toyota drops its platforms

A plan to cut the number of vehicle plans from 40 to 14 has been announced by Toyota Motor Corp.

President Fujio Cho did not set a time frame for the cuts, but every model change will incorporate a reduction in the platform count.

Cho said Toyota currently has 20 monocoque and 20 body-on-frame platforms.

He wants to cut that to seven of each. Of the monocoque platforms, Toyota wants to have three front-engine, rear-drive configurations and four front-engine, front-drive configurations. Cho said the platform cuts would not reduce the number of models offered.

NORTH AMERICAN AUTO WRITERS SYNDICATE

## Audi

FROM PAGE 1

ving. The relationship between the instruments, seats, pedals and the gear selector are excellent.

The seating position is low, and it's tough to climb aboard without contorting the body.

Once inside, though, head and legroom is good, and the body-hugging seats are comfortable.

Well-thought details are everywhere.

Aluminum bezels surround the air vents on the dash, while the window switches are hidden inside the alloy cylinders of the door pulls.

Even the foot pedals are polished alloy with black rubber cleats.

Exposed tubes feeding the center dash vents are slotted to provide defrosting air to the windshield.

On paper, the TT is a four-seater, but the back seat is only suitable for small kids or cargo.

The rear seat flips down to open 24 cubic feet of space, with loading done through the flip-up hatchback.

**On the Road:** Power comes from a 1.8-liter four-cylinder engine with dual overhead camshafts and five valves per cylinder.

It's also turbocharged to produce 180 horsepower and 173 lb-ft of torque.

This powertrain setup has been used recently by Audi in its A4 1.8T, and Volkswagen's New Beetle Turbo, although both have less power.

## SPECIFICATIONS

### 2000 AUDI TT

|                               |                                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Suggested Retail</b> ..... | \$ 30,500                                |
| <b>Price As Tested</b> .....  | \$ 33,500                                |
| <b>Engine Type</b> .....      | DOHC 20-valve 1.8-Liter 14 w/MFI*        |
| <b>Horsepower</b> .....       | 180 @ 5,500 rpm                          |
| <b>Transmission</b> .....     | Five-speed manual                        |
| <b>Tires</b> .....            | (front/rear) 225/45R17 Performance tires |
| <b>Brakes</b> .....           | (front/rear) Disc (ABS)/disc (ABS)       |
| <b>Drive Train</b> .....      | Front-engine/front-wheel-drive           |
| <b>Vehicle Type</b> .....     | Four-passenger/two-door                  |
| <b>Mileage</b> .....          | City/highway 22/31                       |

\* Sequential multi-point fuel injection

And since the TT is such a light car at just under 3000 pounds, drivers can expect a 0-60 mph time of under eight seconds.

Our test car was front-wheel drive, and with it we felt some torque steer under hard acceleration.

The TT also comes with quattro all-wheel drive, which should lessen the torque steer effect.

A five-speed manual transmission is standard, and coming soon is a 225-horse version with a six-speed, more turbo boost and the grippy Quattro system.

**Behind the Wheel:** The basic chassis the TT shares with its VW cousins is heavily modified, upgrades necessary in order to lower the ride and increase the tire size.

Changes to the corporate four-link front suspension include forged lower control arms, new geometry and special bushings.

The rear suspension on front-wheel drive models is a torsion-crank

system, while quattro version have a much more sophisticated double wishbone setup.

The rack-and-pinion steering system is light and tracks well on-center, with quick initial turn-in and lots of road feel.

Body roll in hard corners is minimal, with a bit of understeer at the limit.

The brakes are stellar: vented discs all around with an anti-lock braking system (ABS) as a standard feature.

Also standard is Audi's ASR full-time traction control system.

**Safety:** Dual dashboard airbags, dual side-impact airbags and door beams, ABS, ASR and front seat belt pre-tensioners are all standard.

**Options:** Uplevel Bose-brand stereo: \$1,200; Comfort Package (heated front seats, driver information system): \$700; Performance Package (Xenon headlights, 17-inch wheels and tires) \$1,000.

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# Tiny cars may be the wave of the future

By James G. Cobb  
N.Y. TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Baz Snider was making his way through the afternoon crush of pedestrians in Rockefeller Center when the sight of a green, four-wheeled, six-passenger frog stopped him cold.

"Man, that is one (italics)ugly(end italics) car," Snider, of Manhattan, volunteered even before he could be asked his opinion of the Fiat Multipla parked near the "Today" show studio.

Just short of dumbfounded, he seemed unable to take his eyes off the oddly shaped mini-minivan, which has sold briskly in Europe in the year since it went on sale.

After sitting at the wheel, though, and poking around in the spacious cabin, Snider assessed the car more charitably, conceding that the unusual design incorporated a number of tricks that made the Multipla practical and pleasant.

He even mellowed a bit toward the styling.

"It's ugly," he affirmed again before disappearing into the rush hour. "But I'm not into style. Look at me—I wear bow ties."

Snider was among many New Yorkers brought up short by the Multipla and by another tiny car, the Ford Ka, that stood out in Manhattan like snowplows in Miami.

Motorists pointed in traffic and crowds gathered wherever the two cars were parked, proving that although many Manhattanites are blasé about automobiles, they respond enthusiastically to daring designs and the lure of the new and different.

Consider the success of the Museum of Modern Art's recent exhibition entitled "Different Roads: Automobiles for the Next Century," which closed last month.

The Multipla and the Ka were among the nine futuristic auto designs in the exhibit, which was organized by Christopher Mount, assistant curator of the museum's department of architecture and design, with Phil Patton as curatorial consultant.

While new to Americans, the two cars are on their way to becoming common sights on the streets of Europe. But neither is destined to be sold here in the land of the gargantuan sport utility, where faint demand for small, fuel-efficient, odd-looking vehicles cannot justify the costs of meeting American crash and emissions standards. Furthermore, Fiat has not had an auto-sales network in North America since 1983.

There is another hurdle: Neither car offers an automatic transmission. That is no problem overseas, where small-car drivers disdain automatics for sapping the power and reducing the economy of tiny engines. But relatively few Americans are able or willing to shift for themselves.

Nor is efficiency high on most American car shoppers' lists of essential characteristics. Still, a number of recent designs, including two inex-

pensive cars that have just gone on sale in the United States, the Ford Focus and Toyota Echo, demonstrate that economy can happily co-exist with spacious cabins, distinctive styling, responsive handling and people-friendly features.

The Ka and Multipla go a couple of steps further, with designs that may be too extreme for American tastes.

While successful as hands-off displays in the Modern's sculpture garden, does their function match their form when they roll onto crowded streets?

Can they be appreciated for the way they drive and ride, as well as for their innovative use of space?

Fiat and Ford, which had brought extra cars to New York in conjunction with the Modern's exhibit, made them available recently for test drives.

Both the Multipla and the Ka proved even more impressive in traffic than as static sculptures of sheet metal. Indeed, each car offers answers to some questions posed by internal-combustion cars in the concrete jungle of New York.

## Multipla: Space Before Style

Beyond the Fiat Multipla's frog-eyed face — due to the rounded front and high-beam headlamps up near the windshield, like amphibian eyes — the car is most striking for its bolt-upright side windows. "It is a vertical car," said Paolo Vannini, vice president for corporate communications at Fiat USA.

Though the high design looks ungainly, its beauty lies within, where six tall passengers sit high and comfortably.

Huge windows make the cabin exceptionally airy. The driver's view is superb, if not as high as that from the biggest sport utilities (though one cannot see even a bit of the downward-sloping hood from behind the wheel).

The name of the car, which sells in Italy for the rough equivalent of \$16,000 to \$20,000, denotes its multiplicity of uses — as sedan, station wagon, van or what the Europeans call a multi-purpose vehicle, akin to an American sport utility — as well as its four potential power sources.

The car's impressive interior volume defies its overall length of 157 inches — half a foot shorter than a Volkswagen Golf. The space trick was achieved by topping a low basic body module (the working part of the car, which is no larger than necessary) with a high greenhouse of glass for the

passengers.

A low waistline separates the two pieces and forms a line atop the fenders. The side windows are as tall as the body beneath them, and because they do not curve inward, they do not intrude on passenger space.

Another benefit of this design is safety. In a crash, the lower module absorbs the impact, in theory, instead of the cabin.

Getting in or out is easy, thanks to high, wide doors and seats that are comfortably but not excessively high.

There are three identical seats up front and three in the back; they are all equally roomy. They can also be detached and removed by lifting latches — flush with the floor and designed with Italian flair.

The middle seat up front, in fact, can be replaced with a console that includes an insulated box that can be heated or chilled.

A small refrigerator can slip into the spot occupied by the middle rear seat.

The cabin floor is flat, and there is a surprising amount of cargo space behind the second row of seats. There are storage compartments everywhere, including neat bins that fold out of the roof above the sun visors.

Controls are clustered in the center of the dashboard, including the manual shifter, which protrudes from a pod to the driver's right and frees the floor for legs.

With the speedometer in the middle, the space ahead is available for the screen of an optional navigation system.

This screen can also be plugged in on the passenger side and operated by remote, giving children in the rear something to occupy their time.

The interior is flamboyantly Italian, down to the modern fabric that covers the top of the dash, to the asymmetrical sun visors — one small, one huge — and a tiny lid on the floor that lifts to reveal the ID number.

Its odd look is only part of what makes the Fiat different. It was brought to the Modern in part because of the choices of power sources it offers: gasoline only, diesel only, a dual Bi-Power system that can be switched from gasoline to natural gas, and, yet to come, a gasoline-electric hybrid.

The car I drove in New York was the Bi-Power version, but its natural gas tanks were empty at the time. On gasoline, the four-cylinder engine (1.6 liters, 16 valves, 103 horsepower on gasoline) moved briskly through mid-

town traffic with three occupants on board.

The car's small size, solid chassis and light, precise steering made it easy to maneuver around stopped cabs and slow trucks. With independent suspensions at front and rear, the car rode smoothly over streets ravaged by pre-millennium construction.

The outside mirrors, which include a separate, convex portion for a wider view, retract electrically in tight quarters.

But it is inside where the Fiat makes the biggest impression. The roomy cabin; comfortable, flexible seats; excellent outward view, and well-thought-out amenities lead one quickly to the thought that this would make an ideal taxicab in New York.

Indeed, Fiat is selling a taxi version in Europe.

Big-boned New Yorkers would find a Multipla cab comforting, too, but they are unlikely to get a chance to hail one.

## Ka: Commuting Module With Flair

While the Multipla seems a dandy alternative to yellow, metered Ford Crown Victorias, the Ford Ka has more room than a crowded car on the D train, handles a lot better than the M104 bus and offers some of the fun of in-line skates in a safer, weather-resistant package. It is a commuting device with style and a smile.

The Ka, in short, is a tiny city car — too small to rate three letters, perhaps. Its layout is conventional (it uses the front-drive platform and 1.3-liter four-cylinder engine of the Ford Fiesta sold overseas), but the design is bright.

The styling is New Edge, with rounded planes broken by creases, wrapped around a passenger cabin that is higher and more spacious than the exterior would lead one to believe.

In town, 60 horsepower never felt so good.

The short-throw shifter is light and precise, and the Ka is geared to zoom when the light turns green. Quick steering lets the Ka dart around backed-up buses and trucks like a minnow in a school of tuna, and tiny curb-side gaps become feasible parking spots.

On a drive with Kathleen Hamilton, who works in Ford's New York office, we encountered a semi-truck backed up to a loading dock, blocking nearly the entire width of West 28th Street.

After pausing for a second to judge the scant remaining space, we roared ahead and squeezed through the gap with fractions of an inch to spare.

And when we encountered a backup near the Lincoln Tunnel entrance from Ninth Avenue, we discovered that a fleet of Ka's could do much to relieve gridlock. Caught in the intersection as the light turned red, I shifted to first, gunned the engine and jammed in between a bus and a truck.

It is impossible to block the box in a car as short as a Ka.

# Fiat celebrates its 100th by returning to America

By Bob Hagin

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Of all the auto makers that started in the business before the turn of the century, there's just a handful that are still in operation under their original names. In this country, Oldsmobile is the only one, while in France, both Renault and Peugeot still have their ancient logos of yesterday riding on the hoods of cars still being sold today.

And the only other make that I can think of that belongs to this exclusive automotive Centenarian Club is Fiat of Italy. The company's vehicles haven't been sold here for a long time but the United States is one of the few countries in the world where the blue Fiat rectangle isn't seen above a new car showroom.

Normally, we don't feature car companies in this column that don't have a presence domestically, but as it is with Renault, Fiat is back. In the case of Renault, the company is now in control of Nissan and its American companies and assembly line workers.

Fiat, on the other hand, is in a different area of the American motorized world in that last summer it gained a controlling interest in Case Corporation, a leading U.S. maker of farm and construction equipment, and its 17,700 domestic employees. And in our global economic community, it behooves us to get to know our new neighbors.

A hundred years ago Giovanni Agnelli and Count Carlo Biscaretti formed F.I.A.T. and took over a small plant from the now-defunct Ceriano company.

With it they got the services of two future auto racing greats, Felix Nazzaro and Vincenzo Lancia as well as those of Aristide Faccioli and his then-high tech patents. In those early days Nazzaro and Lancia became, in effect, the "Racing Department" of F.I.A.T. and made it a recognizable marque to the Italian public.

Racing was an influential factor in the marketing of cars back then and the two men put F.I.A.T. on the map. Parenthetically, a pair of F.I.A.T. race cars competed in the first Indianapolis 500 in 1911, one of which was driven by David Bruce-Brown and finished third overall.

During those days before World War I, F.I.A.T. made a plethora of different models large and small, and gobbled up smaller Italian auto makers along the way.

F.I.A.T. (the acronym for Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino) initials) became Fiat (from the Latin "let it be done") SpA (anonymous society or corporation) just after World War I in 1918.

Already it had branched out into the building of aero engines, commercial vehicles, construction equipment, ships, trains and agricultural equip-

ment, as well as other light and heavy-duty machinery.

In the automotive world of today, history seems to be repeating itself as foreign automakers produce their products here to fit into the American market. Fiat Motor Co. made Fiats in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. from 1910 to 1918.

In many ways, Fiat was like Ford before and just after World War II in that its various small displacement engines and running gear formed the basis of many small Italian sports cars. Even the mighty Ferrari can trace its direct ancestry back to 1940 when Enzo Ferrari linked two 1100-cc Fiat engines together to power his first "official" race car.

After World War II, Fiat made an active assault on the nearly unquenchable thirst of Americans for new cars. Ownership of imported cars was a craze that affected both coasts and almost anything that was imported could be sold to enthusiasts.

Fiat first brought in its tiny, comic-strip Tipo 500, a half-liter coupe that could have easily been mistaken for one of those stunt cars in the circus out of which pours a dozen clowns. The Tipo 500 enjoyed the nickname "Topolino" (Little Mouse), an appropriate title. Few of these underpowered machines remain in original condition in this country since its body perfectly fit a professional drag racing class of a few decades ago and many spent

their last days wrapped around 700-horsepower, fire-breathing quarter-mileers.

But the Fiat 124 "Spyder" (roadster) and Coupe were very well received here and thousands of them were sold between 1967 and 1985 in one form or another.

Fiat folded its American tent in the early '80s and concentrated on the rest of the world. It's currently one of the biggest industrial groups in the world, operating in 62 countries via 888 different companies. It operates 211 production facilities, employing almost a quarter of a million people. It's into publishing, banking and insurance, along with having a presence in the metals industry.

The company plans to launch 15 new automotive models by 2002 and will produce its new "world car," the Palio, in Brazil, Argentina, Poland, South Africa, Morocco, India and Turkey. It has also recently signed production agreements with the Chinese government.

Although rumors have persisted for many years regarding the return of Fiat to the U.S. market, company officials adamantly deny them — although it still has a strong presence here in the exotic car market.

There are few American who have never heard of Fiat's most prestigious wholly-owned subsidiary, the exotic Ferrari.

are hit from the side.

Air bags saved the lives of more than 4,700 people through Oct. 1, but they also killed 146 people, according to regulators.

The dead included 84 children who had been riding in the front seats as well as 62 adults, mainly short women drivers who sat very close to the steering wheel and did not wear seat belts.

Drivers are 31 percent less likely to die in a crash and front-seat passengers are 27 percent less likely to die if their cars have air bags, the agency said.

Rae Tyson, an agency spokesman, said that regardless of what regulators end up doing, "People need to continue wearing seat belts and need to continue putting children in rear seats."

Under the rules proposed Tuesday, the sled test will no longer be allowed beginning in the 2003 model year. The agency sought public comment by the end of the year on the proposal, which is then slated to take effect March 1.

The proposal represents a refinement of a broad proposal in September 1998 to revise air bag regulation.

The regulations proposed Tuesday cover only frontal air bags, which are typically in the steering wheel and in the dashboard, on the passenger side.

The rules do not cover the increasingly popular side air bags, which are usually installed in the outer sides of the front seats or above a car's doors and are designed to protect occupants whose vehicles

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## AIRBAG

FROM PAGE D3

does not actually hit anything.

The introduction of this relatively gentle test has allowed manufacturers to install less-powerful air bags since the 1998 model year, reducing the danger to very short adults and children.

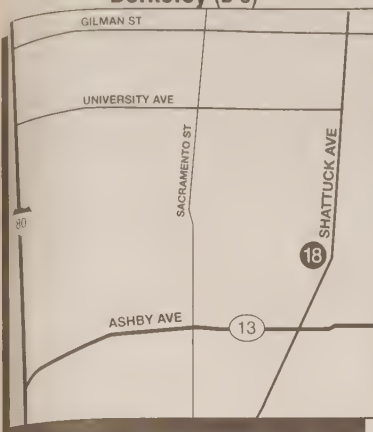
Manufacturers also like the test because it is much cheaper than crashing expensive automobiles into walls. But safety activists have contended that the less-powerful air bags may provide less protection for larger, heavier motorists.



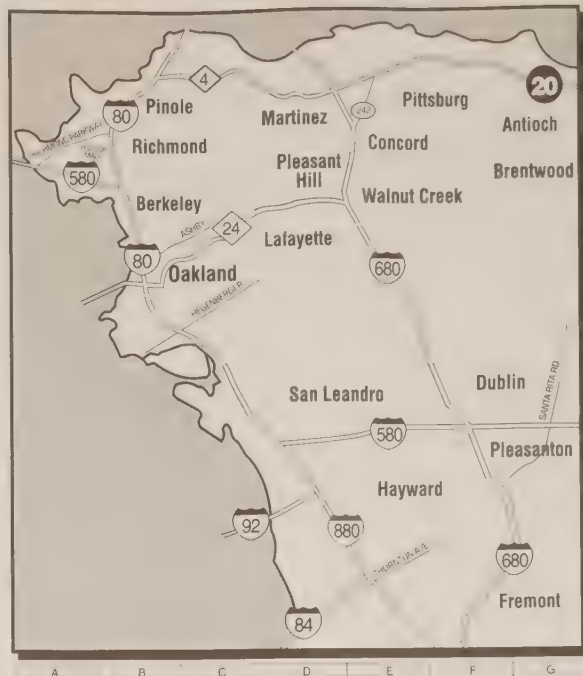
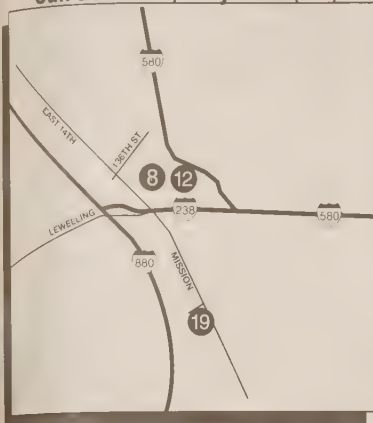
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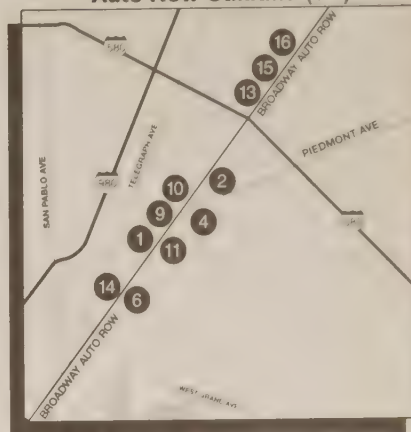
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